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REVIEW OF NEW BOOKS.

Notices on the Northern Capitals of Europe.

By Frank Hall Standish, Esq. 8vo. pp. 272.

London, 1838. Black and Armstrong.

A dilettante, who has seen much of the world, and is particularly conversant with productions of art; and who is, besides, already favourably known to us by preceding publications of the same literary class as the present, commands an early page of *Notice* for his *Notices on the Northern Capitals*. It is just such a work as might have been expected. With a few not unpleasant peculiarities, there is much of good taste and sound judgment on the galleries and museums which the writer visited; and many shrewd and sensible observations on general subjects, though thrown in, as it were, casually without any effort at philosophising or fine style. From both divisions we shall endeavour to extract a few passages to illustrate the remarks on Russia, Denmark, Sweden, and their principal cities, over which Mr. Standish ran in his brief autumnal tour, and of which his Preface informs us:—

"I was desirous of seeing something of the state of art in the North of Europe, and undertook a journey to search its capitals. I had already visited Holland; but have added a relation of what pictures and objects I most admired there in my present tour. Others who travel in the same route, and who shall have honoured my work with a perusal, may, perhaps, differ in their choice and judgment. I do not pretend to lay down any law for admiration; taste for statues, temples, and paintings, is like that for women—black, brown, and fair, have all their amateurs."

Amateurs is rather an artistical phrase to be applied to women; and we question if the writer would think it warm enough for Murillo, the idol of his soul in the painting world. But, let that pass, and let us also proceed on our journey—the Hague.

"The Hague is situated in the 52d degree of latitude, and contains fifty thousand inhabitants. The climate is similar to that of England; but, perhaps, the summers are warmer, while the winters are more severe. The weather at present is delightful. In the cooler seasons, however, much damp prevails. The females all go with drawers under their clothes; the men take a glass of geneva (and, indeed, the women also), to fortify their stomachs, on rising from bed:—this is a usual custom throughout Holland."

Other Dutch characteristics are noted at Haarlem.

"There is (says Mr. S.) an apparent incongruity which I have observed in the character of the Dutch men—although unfaithful to their wives and mistresses, they are very jealous of them in their turn. The lower orders are strongly marked with nationality, and sometimes rough enough. When they meet with one who cannot speak to them in their own tongue, they will say, 'Lop na der verlek'—Go with the lightnings.' The great use of tea and coffee, which, according to Mr. Cobbett's idea, is a failing in England, is here, if his theory be correct, a vice. Never are the tea-kettle and coffee-pot removed from the

table of a Dutch family. Were the learned author of the 'Political Register' (for I must pronounce him both a great and a learned man, in spite of being suspected of Radicalism) to return to life, and dedicate his attention to Holland in the same way as he did to England and America, loud would be his remonstrances against the eternal use of these noxious ingredients, as he would call them; and I have no doubt that his demonstrations would go to prove that, for the price of tea and coffee yearly expended in Holland, he would reclaim a second empire from the sea. A worthy man, with whom I conversed, attributed the laxity of the nervous fibre, and the skin observable among the Dutch women, to this enervating habit."

"The total population of Holland may be two millions and a half, out of which, perhaps, two millions read poetry and history. The literature of France is perused by at least fifty times as many."

Of Americans, some of whom Mr. S. met on his way, Mr. S. says:—

"A strong feeling of prejudice against this branch of our race exists amongst a certain party in England, and, in true accordance with English party spirit, it has, I think, been carried to an unjustifiable and unreasonable length. The inhabitants of the United States are represented as proud, brutal in their manners, and vulgar in their ideas. We do not recollect that their spirit is the spirit of a trading nation: and they have reason to be proud of the manner in which they achieved and have maintained their independence in spite of the most powerful nation of the old world, and all its military and naval equipments. I have mixed with that class of their citizens whose manners are, perhaps, most sensitive to observation—the navy—and have not found them generally worse mannered than the modern British. Brutality will always exist amongst the lower orders of a republic; but, I would candidly ask, are the educated Americans brutal? On vulgarity it is difficult to pronounce, for it is difficult to define it. The aristocracy of England are, however, more ridiculously fastidious and affected than the Americans are vulgar. The works of Mrs. Trollope may be amusing, and in some respects salutary, like other noxious medicines, but they are prejudicial, uncharitable, and in the main discreditable, by their extensive circulation, to the public taste and feeling of the British nation. The Americans are a rising people; they are adventurous, courageous, and shrewd, warm-hearted and hospitable. Their enthusiasm carries them, indeed, too far, when they judge their force at sea as formidable as that of the British; but, when they shall really have swept the seas as the British have done—

* Yet we learn that coffee, taken in another way, is a Cure for the Gout. "Count Piper (we are assured), like myself, was once a martyr to the gout. He said he cured his by taking in bed, every morning, a very strong extract of coffee, with an equal quantity of rum—about a quarter of a pint of each—for thirty successive days. The first week it produced violent headach and fever, which terminated after that period in most excessive perspiration. This remedy left him weak, but cured him; he has had no return of the disorder for nine years, and now trusts to exercise and diet for good health and freedom from the distressing malady which, like the toothach, excruciating as it is, is nobody pities."

defended themselves against the combined world in arms as the British have done—and, instead of taking, with a superior force, a few vessels in detached engagements, have burnt and destroyed whole fleets of formidable antagonists—when they shall have enlarged in a great degree the bounds of science, repressed injustice, and abolished slavery—then they will have the right and power to be arrogant with reason,—but [till] then they will not be so. In making some observations on Mrs. Trollope's 'Domestic Manners of the Americans,' I am free to confess that her work displays talent and observation. If it be entirely her own, the merit of its composition is equal to that of any production of a female pen in the present day: but internal evidence would warrant the supposition of her having had with her a coadjutor, or help, to borrow an American term. Be the work, however, by one author or many,—by single Mrs. Trollope, or Mrs. Trollope and Company,—I think it could with ease be proved that almost all the American peculiarities which shocked her or them so much, are derived from the pure English source; that, in the vulgar language of both nations, the Yankees are 'chips of the old block,' and have, with British blood, inherited British vulgarities. The men in America merry make alone; what do the men in England? What are the national post-prandial joys?—Drinking, sometimes to bestiality, always largely, away from the other sex. Every lady in England has her sitting-room, to be kept apart from the male company, in almost every house: it is as usual as the marriage settlement. Rousseau, I think, affirms such separations to be salutary, and attributes the constancy of English couples to the circumstance of their not being enough together to grow tired of each other, and the infidelity in France to the opposite custom. In America, again, the men stretch the legs on tables. Free and easy persons in England do the same. The Americans hate the British.—Have they no reason to do so? They think their own country the best, and themselves the finest people in the world. This is grating to us, because we 'lords of human kind' are of the same opinion; and equally admit no foreign pretensions. The English are as ridiculously fastidious about the use of certain words as the Americans. The dialogue between Miss Clarissa and Mr. Smith is just what might have taken place almost anywhere in England. The liberty of speech and discussion on religion shocks Mrs. Trollope in America. In England the ministers govern by religion, consequently, it is as obnoxious to touch freely on it as royalty: in America they do not. The Methodist meetings are pandemoniums there—what are our receptacles for celebrating love-feasts? I will not, however, go further; as the author of 'Vathek' observes in his delightful 'Dodecameron,' 'if you wish to live quiet, disturb not public prejudices.' I delight in peace, detest politics, and adore pictures."

Of the Germans.—"It is delightful to see in this country the steps to the thresholds of the meanest houses gay with flowering plants; the small adjacent strips of land blushing with peonies and roses, whilst the honeysuckles and eternal creepers festoon the windows of the

lowliest dwellings. There is a cleanliness of mind indicated in a taste for these embellishments, that savours of the golden age of innocence rather than of these vitiated times. Sobriety and peace may be said to dwell where Flora reigns. In fact, after the changes of war, the devastations of revolutions, and the corrupting examples of treachery and treason attendant on unsettled politics, there is, perhaps, no nation in the world more pure, more sincere, and more well-disposed, than the German. Earnest and warm-hearted in their friendships, they love little ceremony; enthusiastic and romantic, they express themselves with the feeling that issues unadulterated from the breast: they affect no diffidence in communicating their pleasures and their griefs; they have little care to calculate the convenience of exercising good offices. These dispositions vary somewhat in different provinces; those most imbued with the manners of France are said to be the Prussians. I have, in the course of my life, known many Germans, and I cannot recollect any one with whose acquaintanceship I have had reason to be dissatisfied, save once with that of a Hamburg Jew. This nation preserves a peculiar character, I believe, all over the world; and Hamburg is full of the children of Israel. They manage most of its commercial affairs, and prosper: jealous and averse to strangers, they regard, with an evil eye, all who are not of their own tribe. While mentioning the cultivation of flowers, I omitted to say that the German vegetables are excellent. I may note, in particular, that their asparagus is white from the points, and so tender that, generally, the whole that is served may be eaten; whereas in England I have often been obliged to satisfy myself with snapping off a morsel from the end of the vegetable, or, if I proceeded further, encountered a bitterness in the mouth, and found the stringy fibres of the stalk about my teeth. The way by which the Germans at Hamburg render the plant so white and tender is, by never allowing it to rise above the bed. As soon as the green heads are perceived sprouting through the mould, they are covered with mats, forced downwards, and kept from any exposure to the atmospheric air. I have been told that in England lettuce is, in like manner, sometimes ripened in cellars, and becomes white by being kept away from the light."

Of Russia.—"The climate of St. Petersburg is never good, and endurable only from May to October; but the glare of the white buildings in summer, and of the snow in winter, is most prejudicial to the eyes. The population exceeds the number of 500,000; yet I will engage that in Cadiz, which contains only 50,000, there are more handsome women than in St. Petersburg. Peter the Great, when he contemplated the civilisation of his subjects, thought that a sea-port, as a capital, would soonest introduce foreign customs amongst them; and the Swedes having made incursions into his empire in this quarter, he resolved, for both their safety and improvement, to build this capital. . . . I look upon the Russians as still a *people nomade*—a migratory race. They have not abandoned the venerable appendage of long beards—the fashion of their clothes is still the loose flowing robe, bound with sashes, of the Orientals. Their caps and hats, even in the large cities, widen towards the top, in imitation of the turban. They are classed as a European nation, but bear no resemblance to the descendants of the Latins."

And a curious point is mentioned at *Stockholm*, whither the author went from *Petersburg*:—

"On entering (he states) an inn in the Thier-Garten, I passed between several waiting girls—for house and table attendance is here performed by females, whereas at St. Petersburg it is always the office of men—one of them turned to my servant, and said, in Swedish, 'That gentleman comes from Russia; we can tell it by the smell of his clothes.' And I have been told that a residence, even of a few days, in that country, gives a lasting odour to the garments worn there. It is asserted by some, that you may scent a Croat and a Cossack regiment before you see them; but I was not aware that Russian fragrance could be so infectious, and so easily imbibed by a stranger."

We must defer the remainder till next Saturday.

Shakspeare and his Friends; or, the Golden Age of Merry England. 3 vols. 12mo. London, 1838. Colburn.

AFTER the splendid work of Mr. Savage Landor in the *Imaginary Conversations of Shakspeare*, it was an especially daring attempt to address the subject. The present author has, however, taken a lower and more familiar tone: he has tried to paint the Shakspeare and his friends of the every-day world, without imbuing the picture with the splendours of imagination and genius. Involving the birth of his hero, Mr. Francis, in the mystery of romance, and making him (apparently the youthful nephew and slave of a miserly scrivener) the writer of a tragedy, the secretary of Raleigh, and the *protégé* of Shakspeare; he has conjured into the surrounding circle, Elizabeth, Essex, Burleigh, Sir R. Cecil, Lord Howard, Southampton, Cobham, Throckmorton, Burdage, Green, Taylor, and other players—in short, the court and the playhouse; and invented, besides, the characters of a Spanish Jesuit spy and villain, an extraordinary female, Joanna, the daughter of a mercer in Cheap, and citizens, &c. &c., of various orders and descriptions. The scenes are laid in London and the Spanish Main, whither the reader has to accompany the expeditions of Raleigh; and whence a Col. Harquebus is brought, in the end, to clear up the secrets of the three volumes, and produce a finale befitting the merits of the parties concerned.

There is considerable talent in this work, but it is rather too long. There is considerable humour, but it sometimes fails, and is heavy and flat. The imitations from Shakspeare's writings and the works of contemporary dramatists and authors are palpable, and occasionally, as with city constables and watches, too close to the well-known Elbows, Verges, and Dogberrys. Yet, on such a subject, the writer could have no other sources whence to make out his canvass; and we must, in candour, make the needful allowances on that account.

Joanna is the only original character, and reflects most credit on the powers of the writer. A true lover of one individual, and yet a jilt and coquette with every one else who flatters her vanity, or enables her, by their gifts, to prove the force of her single affection, is well conceived and ably delineated. All the rest are either historical, or theatrical copies; and, with these explanations, we shall exhibit such portions as we may to illustrate the performance. We begin with a court sample:—

"The whole party seemed to be in an excellent good humour, especially her majesty, who led the example by laughing loud and long, as she sat before two open doors that looked into a garden daintily laid out in long shady walks, while leaning upon the edge of

the door almost outside of the room, as it were, stood Sir Walter Raleigh, against whom, evidently, all the mirth was directed; who, with a grave countenance continually disturbed by the merriment of his associates, in which he ever and anon joined right heartily, kept smoking a long pipe, and watching the fumes as he puffed them into the air. 'Ah, thou hast small cause to look after the fumes, for thou wilt be in a fine fume thyself presently,' said her majesty; and the courtiers and the ladies thereat did laugh more than ever. 'Please your majesty,' replied Sir Walter, taking the pipe from his mouth, and laughing with the rest, 'my fumes are perfume; and if ever I exhibit any other fumes in your majesty's gracious presence, I shall be deserving of banishment, which would make me in a fume indeed.' 'Thou wilt lose thy wager, Sir Walter Raleigh, which wilt put thy pipe out, depend on't,' added the queen; at which witty conceit the courtiers were again in raptures. 'My pipe will be out anon, please your majesty,' responded Sir Walter in the same jocose spirit: 'but I shall have the honour of winning a purse of gold of the most bountiful sovereign that subject ever had.' 'Odds bodikins, man, thou art mad, sure!' exclaimed the queen, good-humouredly; 'how canst expect to win such a mad wager, unless, peradventure, thou seekest to amuse thyself by playing upon us some trick? which, if thou dost, by our halidom, thou shalt smoke for it in right earnest.' Thereupon the laugh went round as before, and all in audible whispers did commend her majesty's wit most liberally. 'Nay, I should be unworthy to breathe in so estimable a presence were I to make so bold,' replied Raleigh, gravely; 'and for fear that your majesty should misunderstand my meaning, I will recall the terms of the wager; in the doing of which this noble company will correct me if I say any thing in error. Your majesty, out of your gracious condescension, hath wagered me a purse of gold against my Barbary courser, that, from a certain quantity of this precious tobacco that I have before all these honourable persons weighed and put in my pipe to smoke, I shall not be able to tell the exact weight of the smoke that escapes.' 'Why, thou foolish gull, how canst tell the weight of any thing that escapes?' asked the queen, with a merry malicious glance, and to the infinite amusement of her circle. 'Canst catch the smoke after it hath mingled with the air, and press it into thy scales? We did think that thou hadst more wit than to undertake such a thing; and when thou first spoke of it, fancying thou wert taking the traveller's privilege, we laid this wager with thee on purpose to have a laugh at thy expense. O' my faith, thy Barbary courser is as good as lost; but, though it be taking but a barbarous advantage of thee, we must 'e'en accept of it.' 'Please your majesty, perhaps he hath the wonderful seven-league boots, and meaneth quickly to overtake his smoke,' observed a very lovely young gentlewoman, who stood by the side of the queen's chair. 'Nay, Lady Blanche Somerset,' replied her majesty, joining in the general laugh, 'he must be a bird if he means to come up with it, for smoke hath the property to ascend, as thou seest.' 'Methinks Sir Walter be nothing else but a bird,' said Mistress Alice, with an exceeding grave face. 'Why so, child?' asked the queen. 'Doth not your majesty perceive he hath a very owl-like look?' added her attendant, archly, to the manifest increase of the mirth of the company, the which Sir Walter regarded only as if he

had more to laugh at than they. 'I do perceive something in this more than meets your majesty's eye,' remarked a very old courtier, with an exquisitely solemn foolish physiognomy. 'Speak out, my Lord Bumble,' cried her majesty. 'I hold it as most comfortable Christian doctrine, please your majesty,' said his lordship, advancing a little way on his gold-headed cane—for he stooped much, 'that the mouth was made for the accommodation of honest victuals; and though I have lived in the reigns of your majesty's father, Henry the Eighth, of pious, chaste, and glorious memory, and of his most excellent highness Edward the Sixth, who surely hath a throne in heaven; and of our late illustrious Queen Mary, who was of a most princely disposition, as it becometh a queen to have, and which your majesty doth possess to an extent far beyond that which was exhibited by your majesty's predecessors, I never saw a gentleman, and, to speak the exact truth, I may add, any person of any degree whatsoever, who used his throat to imbibe villanous smoke; and, therefore, I hold it as most comfortable Christian doctrine that the mouth was made for the accommodation of honest victuals. Moreover, I never heard of any one with whom it was customary to make a smoke-jack of himself, but one, and he did do it, not from liking but from necessity.' And who was he, my lord? 'inquired the queen. 'Please your majesty, it was no other than the devil—from whose machinations by your majesty ever carefully guarded.' 'Amen, my lord,' said the queen gravely.

We have more of this Lord Bumble, and of other court excrescences, but we cannot say they are diverting: Raleigh, of course, wins his wager, by stating that the difference between the weight in the ashes left and of the tobacco used, must be the weight of the smoke.

Of the wit and pseudo-wit, the following are fair specimens. A messenger is sent from Shakspeare to invite Francis to the Bankside, and this is a part of their interview.

"Now tell me, you worthless varlet, what want you here, or your bones shall ache for it," said he, holding the stick threateningly over him. "Why, I am Gib, the call-boy," replied the boy, finishing his last mouthful, and eying the uplifted weapon with some small astonishment; "I hold the honourable office of call-boy to the Globe, on the Bankside, and earn me the handsome sum of a whole shilling a-week and find myself out on't: but such a one for the business, the players are not like to find more than once in an age, I take it—and of this they are in no way ignorant—for Master Burbage hath said that my 'calling' did credit to me, and I did credit to my calling—and, as I remember me, Master Green said he could swear I was born with a caul, I was so apt at it. In fact, there be none like me. It was but the other day I paid a visit to the Rose to see their call-boy. Such a miserable catiff! the varlet's got no mouth! unless an insignificant bit of a button-hole in his face, scarce big enough to admit a peasecod, be called such—the natural consequence of which is, that he hath not voice enough to frighten a cricket. Now have I something like a mouth—" "Something like half a dozen made into one!" said Master Francis, seeing that the boy extended his jaws to a compass beyond conception. "And when I call," continued he, "my voice may be heard on t'other side of the river—by those who hear well enough. If it be your desire, I will favour you with a specimen of my talents." "I thank you, but I would much rather that you would favour me with

your business," replied the youth, who was too much amused to put his recent threats into execution. "But besides being call-boy," added the other, unheeding what had just been said, "I am oftentimes required to act parts—very important parts, too, I promise you." "Indeed!" cried Master Francis, regarding, with a smile, the droll-looking object at his feet. "In what part could they possibly trust you upon the stage?" "I play the cock in Hamlet," replied the boy very gravely—at which his companion laughed heartily—and so much to the very life, that Master Taylor saith he shall be content to pick a crow with me every time he playeth the Prince of Denmark. And Master Fletcher saith that that piece can never go off as it ought to do unless I have the cock-ing of it. Besides which, I come on as one of Falstaff's regiment—make a very excellent courtier in the back ground—play one of the ghosts in Richard the Third's dream—and at all times make one of the army, of which there are in least some score of us, scene-shifters included. In fact, I should think myself greatly to be envied, were it not for one thing." "Of what can you complain?" asked Master Francis. "I am obliged to eat my meals where I can," replied the boy; "sometimes in Juliet's tomb; sometimes in Desdemona's bed; sometimes in Richard the Third's tent; one day near the forum at Rome; another close upon the Tower of London; nay, even this very day have I been forced to munch my dinner as I came along, because I was sent to you in a hurry with a letter from Master Shakspeare."

Again, with Lord Southampton:—"Well met, Master Shakspeare," said he, shaking hands with the other very cordially. "I faith, if your lordship be in as good health as am I," responded Master Shakspeare with a smile, "then are we 'well met,' indeed." "Ever at it," exclaimed the Lord Southampton laughingly. "Surely, there never was thy match at quibbles and quirks! Indeed, thou art a very juggler with words; and at the mere touch of thy wit canst give them any meaning that suits thee." "In truth, my good lord," replied the other, "my poor words, when addressed to you, however little their meaning may be, must needs have a good meaning, for they mean you well at all times; and such cannot help but suit me, seeing that I take abundance of care they are brought forth on a fitting occasion." "There, again!" cried my lord, laughing again very merrily. "Sure, never was the like!"

Belonging to another description, we select a city soliloquy of the bard:—

"What a place for traffic is this!" exclaimed Master Shakspeare; "and how busy do the citizens seem in the different shops and warehouses! Methinks I can hear the chink of the money; or at least the ready laugh of the chapman at his customer's jest. These be they, fair Joanna! who are up early and late, labouring to the utmost every day of their lives, that others may have the advantage of it; whose greatest pleasure consisteth in the counting their gains, and greatest consolation is the knowing that they are worth something more than their neighbours. These be they who are acquainted with no virtue, unless it be in the possession of wealth; and believe there cannot be any vice so abominable as poverty. In their idea, aldermen are on a footing with angels; and to be in the city comptroller is to be damned to all eternity. They will wink at one who defrauds the orphan and robs the widow of her right, if he hath done it to some tune; but at the necessities wretch, who is driven to do any small villany, they shout, 'Oh, the horrid rogue!'

and would have him hanged forthwith. A man who hath his thousands might turn his wife and children into the street, and live as sensually as he pleased, and they would never wag a tongue at him; but if another, who liveth honestly with what little he gains, be but suspected of kissing a pretty wench on the sly, they would raise such a hubbub about his ears, and would seem so shocked at his iniquity, that the poor fellow should be right glad to escape out of the city with a whole skin."

The humour of Burleigh is made to consist in exclaiming "humph!" "ho!" "ah!" and nothing more, which is a poor improvement on the head-shaking in the "Critic;" and there is even a less successful effort at drollery in the exploits of a chururgeon's wild apprentice, who practises on cabbage-leaves, calves' heads, and cats, and then tortures his master's patients in bleeding, tooth-drawing, and other barber-surgeon operations.

The fine affections of Raleigh's wife, the Beatrice-like character of her cousin Alice, and some of the graver discourses put into the mouths of Raleigh and Shakspeare, are deserving of praise; and with that agreeable word we end our notice.

China: its State and Prospects, with Especial Reference to the Spread of the Gospel, &c. &c. By W. H. Medhurst, of the London Missionary Society. 8vo. pp. 582. London, 1838. Snow.

MR. MEDHURST, a diligent labourer in the good cause, was sent out to the Eastern Seas by the London Missionary Society in 1816, and for twenty years devoted himself to the task of propagating the Christian religion in those parts. He has here given us a narrative of his proceedings; and, in order to render the account more applicable, has compiled from preceding authors historical notices of China, its antiquities, literature, population, and government. Some clever woodcuts, by Mr. G. Baxter, illustrate the volume; and the frontispiece is a good specimen of his art of printing in oil colours.

Passing over the *résumé* of history, we come to the author's view of the "Catholic Missions in China," to the zeal, perseverance, and fidelity, even unto death, of which he yields his assent, stating the converts in 1810 to amount to 215,000 (Marchini's map); but he adds:—

"The present race of adherents to the Catholic missions in China, whatever the original converts may have been, are, it is to be feared, sadly deficient, both in knowledge and practice. Deprived, for the most part, of intelligent instructors; left generally to the care of the native catechists, who are not much better than themselves; and adopting the Christian profession mainly as the result of education or connexion, it is hardly to be expected that they would excel, either in grace or zeal. The modern missionaries, in admitting members, merely require an outward profession, without insisting on a change of heart, or scarcely a reformation of life; the Scriptures are not placed in the hands of the people; religious services are conducted in a language which the generality do not understand; ceremonies are frequent, and public preaching rare; while, from the laxity of morals too common in their communities, we much fear, that the Catholic converts, in the present day, are very little better than the surrounding heathen. On the whole we may conclude, that the Romish missionaries, from first to last, have been rather solicitous about the quantity, than the quality, of their success; while they have displayed a

spirit of timeserving compliance with the prejudices of the heathen, and failed to exhibit Christianity in its most inviting form to the nations. Had they succeeded in establishing their religion throughout China, we question whether, from their known bigotry, they would not have presented insurmountable obstacles to the efforts of Protestant labourers. If any thing earthly could have contributed to success, they had certainly the fairest opportunity of realising their object; the power of numbers, the influence of wealth, the patronage of Christian kings, the attractions of a showy worship, and high scientific attainments, all promised fair for the accomplishment of their design. They have, however, partially failed; and, in their failure, read us a lesson, not to make flesh our arm, but to trust in the living God, who worketh all things according to the counsel of his own will. At the same time, we are not to be discouraged by their repulse: the laws which proscribe them do not necessarily affect us: some of their practices, against which the Chinese excepted, we shall not imitate; such as the celibacy of the clergy, and the cloistering of women; the interference of a foreign potentate with the authority of the emperor will not be promoted by us; the Scriptures will be made the standard of judgment, and reason and conscience alone appealed to. Instead of beginning from the top of society, we propose commencing from the bottom; and aim to influence, first, the extremities, and then the heart of the empire."

We quote these opinions and views without comment. Mr. Medhurst proceeds to the projection and execution of a Protestant mission, the appointment of Mr. Morrison, and the subsequent proceedings at Canton, to the date of his death. We have also details from Malacca and Batavia; but the chief novelty consists in the particulars of a voyage along the Chinese north-eastern coasts, frequent landings, intercourse with the natives, and the distribution of Bibles and religious tracts. This voyage was performed in 1835, and extended from Canton, up the Yellow Sea, to Shan-tung and back. The route is marked on a map. The events with mandarins and other authorities, the difficulties interposed, and the indignities attempted, resemble those which have occurred to all European visitors to this singular people; but we shall copy a few passages to shew the nature of the intercourse attempted. The first landing was at Wei-hae, where the ignorant natives received them civilly; but the mandarins, &c. soon interposed and treated them as "fierce barbarians." Even these, however, were placable.

"We had resolved, therefore (says our missionary), that, should we find the mandarins seated, and no accommodation placed for us, we would decline the conference, rather than submit to the indignity of standing while the rest were seated. To our surprise, however, we found the mandarins standing to receive us; and, on our entrance, we were invited to take the chief seat on the left, which, with the Chinese, is the post of honour. Tea was brought in, and we began the conversation by stating our object, and expatiating on the principal doctrines of the Gospel. We observed that, having seen in our own country the blessed effects of Christianity, we were anxious to impart the same benefits to others; and were, therefore, come to distribute good books, and preach salutary doctrines; besides which we were willing to relieve their bodily maladies, should any present themselves. They replied that they were fully aware of our friendly intentions, but

that the laws prohibited intercourse; and that the imperial decree had limited the foreign trade to the single port of Canton. We admitted that Canton was the only place appointed for foreign trade, but as our object was the spread of religion, and not the promotion of commerce, this limitation did not affect us. We then asked the mandarin whether he had perused our books, and what he thought of them? He answered, that he had read them, and found that, though somewhat different from the Chinese classics, they still contained many good things, and he saw no objection to their circulation; but that he could not allow of intercourse. If we wanted supplies, he continued, they were willing to furnish them gratuitously; or if we were short of water, they would bring it off to us ourselves. We said that we were not much in want of water, and as for supplies, we needed none but what we might be allowed to pay for. After some complimentary expressions, the conference broke up, and we took our leave. On our arrival at the beach, we were anxious to distribute a few tracts before our departure; but the officers in attendance said, that as the mandarins had been supplied with books, it was not necessary to spread them among the people. We were, however, of a different opinion; and, opening our stores, we began to deal them out to the by-standers. To our surprise, the moment a tract was held up, a rush was made for it; and, as quickly as we could take them out, they were snatched from our hands by the natives. This caused a tumult; and the officer, finding the people crowd around in such numbers, began, with the police runners, to beat them off with cudgels. The populace, however, returned to the charge, coming up on one side, as fast as they were driven off on the other: until, dissatisfied with our slow method of distribution, they thrust their hands into the basket, and helped themselves. It was in vain to remonstrate; they were determined to have the tracts, and in a few minutes every leaf disappeared: while we, with difficulty, maintained our standing. Had we been aware of their intention, we might have mounted some elevated place, or have pushed off, to some distance, from the land: but it was as sudden as to us it was new; and, when once commenced, could not be resisted. No sooner were the books in the hands of the crowd, than they were out of sight of the officers; for the Chinese wear large loose sleeves instead of pockets, and immediately a tract was obtained, it went up the sleeve: so that it was difficult for the mandarins to find or recover one. We now quitted the shore, and proceeded to the rest of the junks, where we distributed a number of books, which were willingly received."

They afterwards perambulated several villages, and distributed tracts without being disturbed; the natives being very desirous to get hold of at least a book a-piece. Upon which Mr. M. truly observes:

"Their anxiety to obtain books, however, must not in the least be ascribed to any knowledge of, or relish for, their contents; but merely to an eager curiosity to get possession of something that came from abroad, and an insatiable cupidity to obtain what was to be had for nothing."

It is no wonder that, in two days, two thousand volumes were given away. The next landing was at Kesan-so, where their reception was not quite so favourable.

"On reaching the beach, we were well received by the few natives there assembled, who

took our books gladly. But they strongly opposed our going to the villages, lest we should alarm the women and children. We told one of them, therefore, to go forward, and give information that the females might get out of the way. He had not been gone long, however, before a very officious man came down, and absolutely resisted our advancing a step further. We told him our object was to do good, without expecting any thing in return. That might be very true, he said, but it was contrary to law for foreigners to enter their country, and further we should not go. Finding that nothing was to be done with this man, and not liking to make the people angry at the first onset, we turned along the beach, and set off in the direction of another village. On our way thither, we met with some very civil people, who received our books thankfully. We also observed a well-dressed young lady on horseback, who did not seem much disconcerted at our presence. On approaching the next village, we were met at the entrance by a number of persons, who were very suspicious of us; and among the rest, one old man appeared apprehensive that we were come to take the country. He first wanted to know how many ships we had? and when assured that we had only one, he asked how many men we had on board? On being told that there were only eighteen, he exclaimed, 'A very likely story, indeed! you come along here, to such a distance, with one ship and eighteen people, merely to distribute books, and to do good; and, what is more, you expect us to give you credit for upright intentions. We want none of your books, nor your goodness either.' On his saying this, the few who had taken books gave them back, and nothing would induce a single individual to receive a volume in all that village. We were the more grieved at this, as the place was large and populous."

Their doings and interruptions were pretty much the same throughout. At Shan-tung the author says:—

"It may be proper to observe, that we have nowhere been roughly used or ill-treated, while the natives have been uniformly found harmless and peaceable. We seldom saw a weapon of any kind beyond agricultural implements, and with the exception of one old man, in Kesan-so, who had a rusty sword, and the few men drawn up at the guard-house, both soldiers and people were without arms. We have sometimes been spoken to in a surly manner; and, now and then, forbidden to proceed into the villages: but, when once on the high road, no one ever attempted to hinder or turn us back; and, for all that we could see, it would be no difficult matter to travel from one side of the promontory to the other, if any object were to be gained by so doing. The people, though inoffensive, were by no means forward to help or entertain us; we seldom had any thing offered us, and, even with asking, could get little besides water. So that, had we depended on the charity of the people of Shan-tung, we should have been but ill-supplied. With regard to their reception of our message, this journal will speak for itself. On the north side, which was first visited, they were more willing to receive books than on the south; while the further we went, the more disinclination was manifested. This may be attributed partly to the report of our arrival and operations having preceded us; and to the prohibitions which the mandarins had issued against receiving our books, or holding any intercourse with us. We found, also, that the people on the sea-shore, and in places of great

concourse, were more greedy after books, so as even to rob us of them, while those in the retired hamlets were very shy. This may have resulted, in the former case, from the frequent communication kept up with strangers, while the villagers, being more secluded from the world, were naturally suspicious of foreigners. On the whole, the amount of books distributed in Shan-tung, considering the time occupied in the work, the extent of ground travelled over, and the number of persons met with, did not quite equal our expectations, or come up to what we hoped to experience in the south.

* * * Each considerable village is provided with a temple; but these are generally in bad repair, and the gods apparently much neglected. The idols worshipped are, either the phantom Buddha, or a martial hero, probably Kwan-foo-tsze, who flourished about the third century of the Christian era. Little shrines are also to be seen in the fields, with rude stone images in them; or a mere tablet, bearing a simple inscription. Tombs are scarce, but those which are met with are for the most part upright, like head-stones in an English churchyard."

We conclude with the following summary:—
"As far as the account can be made up, it appears that there have been printed, from the year 1810 to the year 1836,

At Malacca and Canton . . .	450,469 books and tracts.
At Batavia	191,394 "
At Penang	43,900 "
At Singapore	66,000 "

751,763

Including 2075 complete Chinese Bibles, 9970 New Testaments, and 31,000 separate portions of Scripture; with 2000 Malay Testaments, and 2000 separate Gospels in the same language. If the number of pages of each work be reckoned, with the amount printed off, it will be seen that the brethren in the Ultra-Ganges missions have issued from their presses, in those regions, upwards of eight million pages of religious publications in the Chinese and Malayan languages."

A True Treatise on the Art of Fly-Fishing, Trolling, &c., as practised on the Dove, and on the Principal Streams of the Midland Counties; applicable to every Trout and Grayling River in the Empire. By William Shipley. Edited by Edward Fitzgibbon, Esq. 12mo. pp. 264. London, 1838. Simpkin, Marshall, and Co.; the Author at Ashborne.

MUCH as we have prized the gentle art and placid pleasures of the angle, we never were aware of their extreme gravity and importance till this volume placed them before our eyes. After reading it we exclaimed, What is tea-totalism to trouting? What are governments to graylings? How comes it never to have occurred to our antiquaries and ancient historians, that the very name of England is derived from angling? Why were our progenitors, the Angles, so called, whether East or West, but from their devotion to this sport? for it would be an unpatriotic thought to trace it to their submission to the Roman, Danish, Saxon, or Norman yoke. That the Angles were both right and acute in the matter, is clear to a mathematical demonstration; and that Mr. Shipley (no doubt magnified from Boatley, as the family grew in power) is line-ally descended from a great piscatorial thane of that race, just as the Butts and Hooks are (see, *passim*, the pedigree of Theodore, one of the most famous whippers of gudgeon of our day), may, unquestionably, be demonstrated from the archives of *Ash-borne*, which

seems itself, etymologically, to have some mysterious reference to that species of fishing wherein the ash is employed as the main fulcrum for the craft.

But we must not lose ourselves, even in these interesting speculations, when we have so eloquent a writer in front of us. His work is dedicated to Sir W. Boothby and Mr. D. Watts Russell; and, conscious of the honour of their *imprimatur*, he says that his subscription list has benefited accordingly, because "nothing frivolous—nothing dishonourable—nothing immoral—nothing irreligious—in fine, nothing unworthy of the notice of the noblemen and gentlemen of Derbyshire and Staffordshire could appear fostered by the auspices of the houses of Boothby and Russell." And he nobly adds: "Gentlemen, need I then aver, that I feel myself bound towards you and your families by ties of the most fervent and undying gratitude? If it be at all necessary to make such an asseveration, I will do so with the profoundest humility and sincerity, and with a fixed determination, strong and immovable as human one can be, to steadfastly abide by such a declaration as long as it shall please Providence to permit me to remain on this side

'That undiscovered country, from whose bourn
No traveller returns.'

Gentlemen, it would be insincere on my part—it would be an injustice to your characters, as country gentlemen and as magistrates—it would be injurious to my own children, and to those of others, if I, for a moment, concealed what I firmly believe to have been your principal motive in affording me your encouragement and support in my present undertaking. You knew, gentlemen, my late father, and you were personally aware that he possessed, in addition to the secondary qualities of being an excellent fly-fisher, the far more sterling ones of being an honest man—of being a man worthy of a family, *one member of which, at least, has borne a character for religion, true piety, and charity, which has stood, untarnished, the severe test of a long trial of nearly three-score years; and, in consequence of that knowledge, you have resolved to visit the good deeds of the father and the uncle on the son and nephew—thereby, not only encouraging him to walk in their steps, but setting a striking example, by publicly rewarding him, to all children, not to disgrace, by degeneracy, their sires."*

Here is a moral from excellent fly-fishing; who will endeavour to deride it after this? Is there another desperate Dr. Johnson alive in our age to talk of worms and fools going halves in such a pastime? If there be, we would advise him not to amble near Ashborne.

"I could dilate (continues our friend) gentlemen, such is the abundant fulness of heart, to an interminable extent;" and so could we, but we will not: we will quote on. He called in the assistance of a literary man, and informs us of their agreement:

"To-morrow we will set to work," said he; and then we talked of divers matters not connected with fishing. In the morning I laid my father's notes before him. He read them with silent avidity, called me into the room, and questioned me, touching my own fishing acquirements, with as much preciseness and pertinacity, as if he had been deputed to examine me as to my fitness to become chairman of the Walton-and-Cotton club. After an examination of more than two hours, of which he took close short-hand notes, he finished by assuring me in rather a solemn tone, but which was yet full of sincerity and earnestness, that, 'with the blessing of God, we should

manage a good and useful book on fly-fishing betwixt us.' I slept well that night. He has been frequently pleased to tell me during the progress of my work, that the benefit he received from my oral information was such, that, notwithstanding my father's notes and his own knowledge, he could not have produced a standard work without it. I do not take the compliment to myself. If I understand any thing of fly-fishing, if I am the 'capital' fly-fisher he says I am, I owe it to my father's instructions. Him I followed throughout all my boyhood, and during a great portion of my manhood, in his fishing excursions—him I observed—him I listened to—I treasured up his practice and his principles, and whatever merit is due to my share in the work, I willingly offer it as a just and due homage to his memory."

Illustrious son of an illustrious sire—to use his own expressions—we pay homage to him, "most heartfully, most sincerely, most gratefully."

Then the firmness of his philosophy. "If (he reasons) a man amuses himself innocently, it neither becomes the philosopher nor the man of the world to scoff at him, or to ridicule contemptuously his pursuits. Live and let live; amuse yourself, and let others do so likewise, is a charitable maxim, and one that ought to be observed by all brothers of the angle." The "let live," he it understood, does not apply to trout and grayling, but to "plodding bottom fishers," and such like.

Into the precepts of the work, the mode of dressing flies, and all the arcana of rod-building, line-making, basket-weaving, net-landing, &c., &c., &c., we cannot dive; suffice it to say, the advice is of the best quality.* *Es. gr.*

"Never be afraid of giving your fish too much line, provided you feel him, and can keep him from the bottom; for there is nothing that more speedily exhausts a fish than to have to drag a long length of line after him. This was the invariable practice of our father, and we never knew him to lose a fish by adopting it. We have seen him kill very large fish in this way, rejecting the advice of lookers-on, who urged rapid winding-up, and bearing strongly on the fish; and we have observed him, notwithstanding the many advisers against him, to give the fish line with a confidence that would have been jeered at as conceited and obstinate presumption, had it not been justified by success."

And again, "Best, who by many is considered a good authority, remarks, 'the imitations of nature, in regard to the flies necessary for use, suiting the different colours so exactly as to resemble the natural fly, and observing the greatest nicety in regard to its symmetry, contribute to make it (the art of fly-fishing) still more delightful. Whenever he (the fly-fisher) makes a fly, let him have the natural one always before him, which will enable him to be a competent judge of the materials most necessary to dub it with.' Mr. Hansard, an angler of extensive experience, advises you, 'if you make any flies while out, to catch the natural fly, and, seated on your basket in some sheltered corner, to try your skill. Always take a few of the real flies home to be copied during unfavourable weather.' We have thought it absolutely necessary to write this chapter, for unless we disproved the theory of Professor Rennie, and we flatter our-

* At page 207, he has dared to doubt a former statement of ours, on fishing in *dead still water*; but we forgive him, as he does not venture on 'the lie direct,' and does call us "celebrated writer."

selves that we have triumphantly done so, all the instructions, given with such elaborate minuteness in the preceding chapter, would be so much loss of time, and, what is worse, would be tending to propagate false doctrines. The same observation applies to the chapter that will succeed this. It is scarcely necessary to add, that it is our own unshaken and sincere opinion, that artificial flies, when in the water, are like either the living or dead insects which fish prey upon. The closer the imitation, the surer the success of the angler."

Upon this, all we shall note is, that *colour* has always appeared to us to be more essential than *shape* or *form*. Get the colours of the natural flies upon your hook, and it will little matter how they are tied on; for the actual fly, in swimming or drowning, does not present its lineaments to the fish—they only see the tints and the motion, and they bite.

ARTS AND SCIENCES.

OVERLAND COMMUNICATION WITH INDIA. CAPTAIN BURNES.

WE begin to experience the benefits of this mode of communication with the East. The last two mails from Bombay have arrived in London; the one in forty-nine, the other in fifty days. The former left Bombay on the second of March, and brought answers to letters from London of date the 6th of January: thus completing the time, out and at home, in three months and twelve days. By the last mail we have, however, a further proof of the extent of the utility of this mode of conveyance, letters having been received from Captain Burnes, dated Cabool, 9th February. This indefatigable officer was then enjoying the delightful climate of this region, while following up the objects of his mission. Dr. Lord and Lieut. Wood, his two companions, had gone to visit the Uzbek Chief, Moorad Beg, at Koondooz. This is the same "accomplished scoundrel" (as the "Quarterly Review" calls him) to whom much, if not all, of Moorecroft's misfortunes are to be attributed, and from whom Burnes himself, with all his wit, barely escaped with impunity, when on his former journey. When he sent to request, the other day, the aid of the medical attendant of the British Mission at Cabool, he little guessed that the favour was granted him by the Armenian watch-maker whom he had kidnapped in the person of Captain Burnes some five years before, and dismissed with a growl of contempt.

We also learn that a fleet of fifteen large boats, with a valuable cargo, had just arrived from the Indus, at Bombay, and been received with great demonstrations of joy by the natives, and satisfaction by the government. Capt. Burnes's mission is, we believe, for the purpose of perfecting the arrangements in regard to the free navigation of the Indus, so auspiciously commenced by his own persevering voyage.

THE SIRIUS AND GREAT WESTERN STEAMERS.

THE voyages of these vessels across the Atlantic have made so great a sensation (and, as an epoch in the history of navigation and international intercourse, it is not surprising they have done so), that we trust our readers will not mislike the selection of some of the statements and remarks in the American Journals, which have reached us to the 2d of May, on the subject. Under the head of "A new Era in Commerce," the *New York Daily Whig* of April 24th, observes: "It is a little remarkable that St. George's Day should have been the eventful period when the history of com-

merce commenced a new epoch: though, when we reflect that British enterprise has broken down the barriers which heretofore obstructed the perfect navigation of the Atlantic, the coincidence of the arrival of the great steam-packets on this day, is a matter of delightful contemplation. A new era in commerce has, indeed, dawned upon us; and when we take into consideration the fact, that in a few weeks navigation will be effected without the use of the sextant or quadrant, through the stupendous discovery of Dr. Sherwood, and that vessels will find no impediments in cloudy weather, or be obliged to lay-to for sun, moon, or stars, it is impossible for the imagination to transcend the actual changes that must be brought about in the social system. It may be confidently asserted, that in less than three years, nearly, if not all, the carrying trade of both hemispheres will be performed by steam-ships; unless electro-magnetism shall be successfully applied to the same object. The superior advantages of steam navigation have, by the success of the *Sirius* and *Great Western*, been amply demonstrated; which, with the discovery of the longitude, constitute the most brilliant epoch in the history of science which has yet been the object of philosophic contemplation. Yesterday will be ever memorable in this metropolis, and its anniversary ought to be kept as long as the country endures. It was the harbinger of a day not far distant, when New York will indeed be the London of America: when the two great cities, bound together by the ties of blood, interest, and good feeling, will be as it were one in splendour and opulence. England and America henceforth are to be near neighbours. Three thousand miles of ocean no longer separate them."

Then follows a long account of a visit to the *Sirius*, lists of her officers, description of the accommodations, &c. "She left Cork on the 4th, and for five days had not even a glimpse of the sun. She experienced a very rough passage, and some severe gales, which she weathered in fine style, not meeting with a single accident. Indeed, old travellers on board of her say, that they never rode out a gale more easily than while in her. In the severest weather they sat down to table as usual, without having to put up even the stanchions to the tables. The *Sirius* took on board from Cork 453 tons of coal, of which 22 tons are left, and 58 barrels of resin, of which 15 barrels are left. The coal, when first burnt, is not thrown away, but mixed with the resin and burnt again. The average rate of the vessel's course was 8½ miles per hour. She has gone during the voyage, wind fair, 12 miles per hour. The head engineer thinks the average rate of the vessel's course, in moderate weather, would be 10 miles per hour."

On this day (the 24th), the mayor and council of New York were accompanied by the British Consul, and partook of a collation on board the steamer; and, before setting out, Lieut. Hoskin, the commander of the *Great Western*, was introduced to the company. Toasts and speeches were profusely given, and hailed with enthusiastic cheers. Among the former were "Lieut. Roberts, the commander;" "Enterprise mutually fostered, &c.;" "Queen Victoria, and long may she reign over a great and free people;" "The President of the U. S.;" "Lieut. Hoskin;" "Memory of Robert Fulton," &c. &c.

During the morning, visitors had been received on board the *Great Western*; and Paris's splendid paintings were the theme of every tongue. "It beats all nature," was the cry;

and mats were put down to save the carpet from the *extra* spitting. The *Great Western* took out 600 tons of coals, and consumed 450. She does not use resin like the *Sirius*,* and has an apparatus for distilling the sea into fresh water.

Every day during the stay of the vessels they were crowded from the shore, and the utmost hospitality prevailed. Never since America was a nation, was such hearty union of British and American kind feelings and hearty sympathies witnessed as throughout this gratifying intercourse. On the 27th there was a grand dinner, with toasting, &c.; and on Saturday a multitude of the ladies of New York were entertained on board the *Great Western*. Of the wit on the occasion we offer a specimen.

"*Getting Snagged*.—A cute Yankee boarded the *Great Western* yesterday, and as he was coming on shore again, accosted one of the officers thus: 'I say, mister, what an awful whirlpool there would be, if this here boat should happen to get snagged comin across the big pond, and go down? I reckon I should like to be about sixteen miles from that spot, just then.' Hearing Capt. Hoskin mention the short time in which the voyage was accomplished, the fellow pricked up his ears, and, just as he was leaving the vessel, said: 'I say, Captin, if you *did* come in such a short time, you must have put an affired quantity of grease on the keel afore you started, or you never would have slipped along so easy, I reckon.'"

A delegation from the American Institute also visited the *Sirius*, previous to her sailing on the 1st of May; and cordial civilities passed on the occasion.

Our home newspapers this week have reported the safe return of these vessels. The *Great Western* followed the *Sirius* from New York on the 7th, with a great number of passengers (68 cabin), and arrived in Kingroad in 14 days 17½ hours, the wind having been contrary during nine days. The average consumption of coals was less than a ton an hour.

The *British Queen*, larger than the *Great Western*, was launched at Limehouse on Thursday.

ROYAL INSTITUTION.

FRIDAY, 18th.—Mr. Faraday, 'On the Solid, Liquid, and Gaseous State of Carbonic Acid, by Thilorier's apparatus from Professor Graham.' M. Thilorier, of Paris, has contrived an apparatus, consisting of a retort and receiver, for the solidification of carbonic acid gas, and, through the liberal kindness of Professor Graham, Mr. Faraday had been enabled to bring the subject of his lecture, illustrated by drawings, and by the action of the apparatus itself, before his numerous auditors. Carbonic acid gas, the fixed air of Dr. Black, discovered by him in 1757, connected as it is with the respiration of animal and vegetable life, being, also, the chief product of fermentation and combustion, is of a very interesting character; an additional interest has been given to this chemical compound, by the inquiring mind—by the ingenuity of Thilorier. By subjecting gases to great pressure, their elasticity is so far counteracted that they become liquid, ethereal, and volatile. The common process, probably known to most of our readers, is to expose them to the pressure of their own atmospheres. For instance, carbonate of soda and sulphuric acid mixed together in a perfectly close vessel (in a bent glass tube, hermetically sealed, the process may be witnessed), generate carbonic acid

* The *Sirius* had on board when she started 450 tons of coals, 29 tons of water, and 58 casks of resin.

gas, which soon fills the vessel; and more and more, until by the reaction of the force to escape upon its own particles, by condensation, the gas becomes liquid. Upon this principle is the apparatus of Thilorier constructed, of very strong materials, sufficiently so to resist the pressure of more than ninety atmospheres; for such is the immense expansive force within the retort, by the action of a full charge of diluted carbonate of soda at a temperature of 100° Fahr. and sulphuric acid. Many successful processes, mechanical and chemical, have been made to liquefy carbonic acid gas, and in several of them a white powder had been observed; which, however, was allowed to pass away almost unheeded, until Thilorier contrived means to collect the snowlike substance, which he tested, and pronounced to be solid carbonic acid. The liquid from Thilorier's retort is distilled over into a receiver, fitted with stop cocks, leaden plugs, &c. and of like strength to resist the enormous pressure; and the solid is produced by the issuing of the liquid through a small vent from a pressure of about, in the experiment of the evening, fifty or sixty into that of only one atmosphere. The collector was most ingeniously contrived; but to afford any correct notion of the whole apparatus, diagrams should be called in aid, or the instrument itself exhibited,—both impracticable in a short notice. We will proceed, therefore, to describe briefly the principles of the solidification. The liquid carbonic acid is highly volatile, and, therefore, by the rapid expansion and evaporation consequent upon its issue from the receiver, is capable of producing an intense degree of cold,—even 157° below 0° Fahr., or 189° below the freezing point of water,—and, at 112° below 0°, liquid carbonic acid freezes: hence solid carbonic acid. This substance, cold as it is, may be held in the hand with impunity, or retained in glass in the open air for a considerable time; because it immediately becomes surrounded by its own vapour, and is not in contact with the substance upon which it apparently rests. How, then, it is to be used as a cooling agent is a beautiful point. Two bodies, of widely different temperatures, are to be brought into contact by a third, which must be a good conductor of heat; and for this purpose ether is employed, because it will bear the contact, and still retain its liquid state. The innocent-looking mixture indicates none of its properties; but carbonic acid thus dissolved, and, consequently, not so cold as solid carbonic acid, cannot be touched with the same impunity; and any one would rue placing a finger therein: the effect would be the same as if it were plunged in melting metal. Mercury placed in it was immediately frozen, and, taken out, was cut like lead with a knife. Such, then, are the leading points of Mr. Faraday's lecture; our limits will not permit a detailed account of the highly interesting, and beautifully scientific, simple illustrations, brought forward and manipulated by him. They must have given great delight to the members present; and to the excitement consequent thereon, alone, can we attribute the disorderly rush, at the conclusion, to procure some of the solid substance,—the great novelty of which, even, would not account for the bustle to obtain it.

ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.

THE eighth anniversary of this Society was held on Monday. Mr. Hamilton, president, in the chair.—The secretary read the annual report of the council, which stated, that sixty-five new members had been elected; that ten vacancies had occurred during the past year; and that the Society now consisted of 690, ex-

clusive of foreign honorary and corresponding members. That the finances continued in a prosperous state, as the expenditure of 1260*l.* during the last year had been met by a corresponding increase in subscriptions, leaving the whole capital of 4800*l.* untouched in the funds. The report then adverted to the loss which the Society had to deplore in the death of our late sovereign, William the Fourth—a monarch whose name, associated as it is in the annals of our country with the progress of discovery in Africa, Australia, and in both the Arctic and Antarctic Oceans, must ever live in the remembrance of the Geographical Society as its first munificent patron and benefactor. The council had the gratification to announce that Her Majesty Queen Victoria had been graciously pleased to become the patroness, and to continue to the Geographical Society the same annual donation of a royal premium originally granted to it by her royal predecessor. The services of the enterprising travellers who had established strong claims to the gratitude of the Society were then alluded to: of Col. Chesney, as leader of the Euphrates expedition, during which he and the party under his command had navigated, for the first time in modern history, two of the most celebrated rivers in the world; of Captain Alexander, for his late journey in Southern Africa, of Mr. W. I. Hamilton, for his various journeys throughout Asia Minor in the years 1836-7, during which much new geographical information was obtained; of Messrs. Dease and Simpson, who had successfully traced the hitherto unexplored northern shore of America, between Point Barrow, and Ross's Extreme; and, lastly, of Mr. Schomburgk, who had explored the rivers Essequibo, Berbice, and Corentyn, in British Guayana, and added very materially to our knowledge of the natural productions of that rich and fertile country. The report then adverted to the expedition under Mr. Ainsworth and Mr. Rassam, shortly about to proceed to Kurdistan; its object being to make acquaintance with the Nestorian Christians, and the country they inhabit, in the districts of Hákari, Julamerik, and Amadiyah, and towards which expedition, in conjunction with the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, the council had thought fit to appropriate the sum of 500*l.* to be divided over two years. At the conclusion of the report, the president delivered the first anniversary address to the Geographical Society; a masterly essay, in which he reviewed the principal contributions that had appeared in the journal of the Society from its commencement; then dwelt on the value of geography as connected with, and as illustrating history; and, lastly, he touched upon the chief objects to which the Society should immediately direct its attention, if it intended to occupy that station among scientific bodies, to which the important and truly practical nature of its labours justly entitled it. The thanks of the Society were voted to Colonel Fanshawe, retiring from the office of vice-president, and to the seven retiring members of council. On proceeding to ballot, the following gentlemen were declared duly elected to fill the vacant offices:—The Hon. Mount Stuart Elphinstone, vice-president; Captain Back; Colonel Jackson; Robert Brown, Esq.; Lieutenant-Colonel Chesney; W. I. Hamilton, Esq.; and Colonel Fox, as new members of council.

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

MAY 9th. Rev. W. Whewell, President, in the chair.—Three communications were read,

1st, 'An account of the Fossil Stem of a Tree lately discovered in the Coal Measures near Bolton-le-Moor,' by Dr. Black, F.G.S. This fossil, when first exposed in the quarry, was about 30 feet long, but when it was examined by Dr. Black, only 12 feet remained *in situ*, the thicker end of which was about 15 inches in diameter, and the thinner end 9 inches. It traversed three strata, and was inclined at an angle of 18° to the N.E., the strata dipping from 12° to 15° to the S.W., or in an opposite direction. The interior of the stem consisted of a finely grained sandstone, mixed with carbonaceous matter, clay, and oxide of iron; and the surface was singularly striated and furrowed, as if from contraction or pressure, and was generally coated with a layer of coal. Along the whole length of the fossil was attached, and in some places apparently imbedded in the bark, a Sternbergia, about an inch in diameter. The allocation of these two plants formed the principal object of Dr. Black's communication; and he has been induced to infer, from the condition of the fossils, that the Sternbergia was not accidentally placed in juxtaposition with the larger stem, but that it was originally a parasite, resembling, in this respect, the mighty creepers of tropical regions.—2. 'On the Distribution of Organic Remains in the Strata of the Yorkshire Coast,' by Mr. Williamson, Curator of the Manchester Natural History Society. In former communications, Mr. Williamson gave an account of the organic remains found in the lias and lower divisions of the oolitic series; and in this paper he resumed the subject, and described the distribution of the fossils in the upper sandstone and shale, the Cornbrash, the Kelloway Rock, and the Oxford Clay. *Upper sandstone and shale.*—This deposit rests upon the great oolite, and may be examined at many points between Grinstead Bay and the cliffs of Stainton Dale, beyond which it is not visible on the coast. It varies much in mineral character, but may be divided into three beds, the lowest and highest consisting of sandstone, and the middle of shales or clays. The organic remains are found in greatest abundance on the north side of Scalby Beck, and in Burniston Bay, and consist entirely of land plants, belonging to ferns of the genera Cyclopteris, Petopteris, and Otopteris; remains of Cycadea and Equiset also occur, and considerable quantities of imperfectly preserved wood. *Cornbrash.*—This formation is exposed at intervals along the coast between Grinstead Cliff and the Castle Hill at Scarborough; it consists of about five feet of ferruginous sandstones and fissile oolite, and abounds in marine shells, some of which are peculiar to the deposit, but others are found in beds both below and above it. *Kelloway Rock.*—This formation is best exposed at Grinstead and Cayton Bays, and Scarborough Cliff. It varies from 35 to 70 feet in thickness, and consists principally of soft sandstones, sometimes calcareous, and towards the top very ferruginous. It supplies the best building stone in the east of Yorkshire. The fossils are numerous, and for the greater part highly characteristic, especially the Ammonites. *Oxford Clay.*—This argillaceous deposit is about 130 feet thick, but it affords few fossils, except in the lower part. The paper contained valuable lists of organic remains, not only of the formations generally, but of every stratum; also comparative lists of the range of each species.—3. 'A Description of the State in which Animal Matter is usually found in Fossils,' by Alfred Smee, Student of King's College, London, and communicated by Professor Royle. Mr. Smee's paper commenced with a brief

account of the composition of recent bones and shells, and of the manner in which animal matter is associated with the earthly constituents; it then proceeded to detail the states in which the author had found animal matter in fossil organic remains. For the sake of arrangement, the results of the experiments were given under two general heads; one in which animal matter had been detected in various states, the other in which it had been ascertained to be wholly wanting. The first head was further subdivided into three cases; 1, that in which the animal matter is preserved unaltered; 2, that in which it is partially altered; and 3, that in which only the carbon was discovered.

1. The following experiments proved the existence of animal matter in an unchanged state. Portions of the tooth of a horse, an ox, and a stag, from the bed of ancient chalk rubble at Brighton, were placed in diluted muriatic acid, and the animal matter, after the earthly ingredients had been removed, preserved its original consistence. Fragments of the tooth of a mammoth from Norfolk, and of a rib of a mastodon from Big Bone-Lick in Ohio, upon being treated in a similar manner, gave the same results. A thin slice of the rib displayed also all the characters of unaltered bone. Small portions of a *Terebratula*, and of two species of *Producta*, from the Silurian Rocks of Malvern, yielded, in diluted muriatic acid, minute floculi of animal matter which, under the microscope, exhibited the same appearance as the membrane of a recent shell. A minute fragment of an *Asaphus Caudatus* also gave several little shreds. The experiments with the shells were repeated several times, with uniform results.

2. With respect to those fossils in which the animal matter had been found partially changed, the following instances were given.—A fragment of the jaw-bone of a stag from the Brighton rubble-bed, of the humerus of a mastodon from Big Bone-Lick, and the tooth of a shark from the London clay, upon being submitted to the action of diluted muriatic acid, yielded only a brown powder, the consistence of the animal matter having been previously altogether destroyed in the fossil. The author had, also, found it impossible to make thin slices of these bones for microscopic observations. A portion of a fossil oyster from the Isle of Wight, and of a pecten from the lias, when placed under the microscope, presented black spots over the whole surface, and the structure of the shell appeared to have been destroyed. A minute fragment of an ammonite, when dissolved in acid, afforded a substance resembling sepia.

3. The third case, or that in which only the carbon of animal matter had been discovered, was considered under two divisions; one in which bitumen had been detected mixed with carbon, the other in which carbon had been found by itself. The instances of the former condition given in the paper, were confined to the results obtained from the scales of *Dapedium politum* and other lias fishes. On heating these scales over a test tube, considerable quantities of bitumen were given off; and when small portions were exposed to the action of diluted muriatic acid, carbon was left undissolved. In the other division, the following experiments were mentioned. Bones of the *Ichthyosaurus* and *Plesiosaurus*, from Lyme Regis, yielded, in diluted acid, a black matter, which deflagrated with red hot nitre, and the resulting mass gave a precipitate with chloride of calcium. To prove that the carbon was a portion of the bone and not an adventitious ingredient, a fragment was analysed, and found to contain about the same proportion of carbon as the animal

matter of an equal quantity of recent bone. In a section of the fossil, the carbon was also ascertained to occur in the greatest abundance in the thickest parts. As further tests that the carbon belonged to the bone, a fragment was digested for thirty-six hours, but it gave not a trace of gelatine; and a section of recent bone, after being carbonised by heat, was filled with crystals of alum, or a composition of whitening, and was found to exhibit a similar arrangement of carbon as in the fossil bone. The instances were then detailed in which animal matter, including the carbon, had been found to be entirely wanting. Fragments of the external and internal portions of a mammoth's tusk from Siberia, dissolved completely in muriatic acid, and did not blacken by heat; a fragment from the interior of a tusk from Ohio gave the same results; but a portion of the outer crust proved to contain a considerable quantity of animal matter. A small part of the bone of a quadruped, of a bird, and of a fish from the Crag, contained no animal matter. With respect to the cases in which the entire substance of the fossil had been removed, no examples were given, as they are of common occurrence, and did not come within the immediate object of the paper. In conclusion, Mr. Smee observed, that the different states of the animal matter in fossil bones pass so insensibly into each other, and, in many cases, agree so closely with the condition of human bones obtained from churchyards, and other bones found with Roman implements, that the ordinary process of putrefaction appears sufficient to account for them all: and that, even in the carbonisation of the animal matter, it is not necessary to have recourse to heat, as bones become black when macerated too long; and as the degree of alteration does not depend on the age of the bed, it is a subject of curious investigation for the geologist to ascertain how far the conditions necessary to putrefaction, as air, moisture, and a certain temperature, were present in those strata in which the change has been great, how far they were absent in those in which the change has been small.

ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

THE anniversary meeting was held on Friday, the 18th instant, N. W. Ridley Colborne, Esq. in the chair.—The report of the council commenced by congratulating the members on the position which the Society had already attained. The number of its members was stated to be 205,—a number probably unprecedented in the first year of any other scientific society. It then proceeded to remark, that it would be in the recollection of many, and more especially of the original members of the Society, that, during the commencement of its operations in St. James's Park, great injury was sustained by the mischief and cruelty of the children, and other frequenters of the Park; but the council had now the satisfaction of reporting that a marked improvement in this respect might be observed; and they are convinced, that the gratuitous exhibition of living birds will have a powerful effect in combating the childish propensity to tease and torture animals, and in substituting an intelligent interest in the place of an ignorant and brutal cruelty. The number of honorary members was stated to be two; of foreign members, three; and of corresponding members, eleven. Little more than a nucleus of the museum and library had, as yet, been formed; but the council are confident that, with the valuable scientific services of the curator, Mr. Blyth, a sufficiency of specimens for the illustration of the

monthly lectures will very shortly be obtained. It is hoped that the monthly meetings will continue to prove equally instructive and entertaining; and that the less scientific members of the Society will continue to take part in the conversations, which generally succeed the lectures and observations of a more scientific character. The accounts of the Society to Dec. 31, last, had been audited, and found correct by a committee of audit appointed by the Society at the monthly meeting in January; and consisting of Mr. Lemon, Mr. Yarrell, and Mr. Leadbeater. The balance in hand, at the end of the year 1837, was 117. 16s.; the sums then owing by the Society were 36l. 17s. 9d.; and the sums owing to the Society were then 42l. The by-laws had been printed, and copies of them would shortly be distributed. In conclusion, the council begged to recommend to the members and friends of the Society the expediency of enlisting new supporters in its ranks, to enable it to carry out the numerous and important objects of public utility which its prospectus held out for accomplishment. His Grace the Duke of Buccleuch was then elected president in the room of the Earl of Liverpool, and five new members of council in place of five that retired from office. Some admirably mounted specimens of rare birds were afterwards exhibited by Mr. Blyth, which had been obtained in the London markets. Among them was an elegant small heron (the *Ardea ralloidea*), in fully adult plumage, which had been recently shot in Suffolk; and the little hazel grouse (*Tetrao bonasia*), of continental Europe, the Old World analogue of the well-known buffed grouse of North America, forming with it a distinctly characterised subgenus, with partly naked legs. Mr. Blyth then discoursed for some time on the general structure of the class *Aves*; and exhibited analogous portions of the skeletons of various groups, to illustrate the variations which they presented. He dwelt especially on the importance of studying all parts of an animal's structure, in order to attain a just idea of its systematic relations; and expressed a wish that the museum of the Society should be select, rather than extensive, affirming, that a comparatively small number of species, illustrative of the principal types or models of structure, would amply suffice for scientific purposes, if exhibited in all the progressive stages of their outward covering, and, also, in the various differential details of their anatomy. N. A. Vigors, Esq. followed with some observations to the same effect, remarking how necessary it is for those who wish to advance scientific zoology, to penetrate somewhat deeper than the mere surface. Of course, no classification could be relied on which was founded on only one system of organs, whether they were exterior or internal; it was on the totality of characters that the natural system reposed, upon the whole rather than a part; and an arrangement, based on the entire conformation, must necessarily be permanent, and constitute a secure foundation for extensive generalising. The next meeting was appointed for Friday, June 1st.

ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

MAY 7th. James F. Stephens, Esq. in the chair.—A considerable number and variety of subjects were exhibited by various members, of which the following were the most interesting. A considerable number of the larvae of some of the longicorn beetles were exhibited by Mr. Yarrell, found in a case of stuffed birds, which had been prepared upwards of seven years, burrowing into the branches, and so

much weakening them as to render it necessary to take the case to pieces. Mr. Sells exhibited a number of specimens of the rare *Copris lunaris*, and of the cocoons in which they pass the pupa state: and Mr. Ashton a numerous collection of insects, recently received from Barbadoes. The Rev. George May presented a piece of the stem of a pear-tree, which had been burrowed into to the centre by the larvae of *Zenzera Esculi*, the wood-leopard moth; and Mr. Albous presented his highly magnified figure of the head of the flea, shewing all the parts of the mouth in detail. Mr. Ingepin communicated notes upon the economy of *Sirex duplex* and *Brachinus crepitans*; and the Rev. F. W. Hope presented a list of the various insects observed to be infested by *Filaria*, and other wormlike parasites. The commencement of a monograph upon the genus *Popillia* was read by Mr. E. Newman, F.L.S. Numerous entomological works were presented, and thanks ordered to be given to the donors thereof.

BOTANICAL SOCIETY.

FRIDAY 18th. J. Reynolds, Esq. in the chair.—Read, a description of the new species of *Gesneria*, translated from the French by W. H. White, Esq. 1st. *Gesneria mergorhiza*. This species is very remarkable for the largeness of its tubercle, which sometimes acquires an enormous diameter. The habitat of this beautiful plant is Brazil; it differs from *G. bulbosa* by the largeness of its bulb, by its leaves, which are corded at the base and not rough and uneven, by its hairs being compressed against the stem, and by its flowers. 2d. *Gesneria Heutlei*. This species is nearly allied to *G. fancealis*, but differs from that by its leaves being petiolate and not in the least acute, by its peduncles not being rounded, and by its corolla not being swelled at the neck. It forms one of the most beautiful ornaments of the green-house. This, also, grows in Brazil, where both have been found by M. Von Heutte. They form part of the collection of M. Parthon de Von, at Anvers, and are cultivated in the Botanical Garden at Brussels.

ELECTRICAL SOCIETY.

SATURDAY last.—Read the recapitulation of Mr. Pollock's paper, 'On the Connexion between the Atomic Arrangement and Conducting Power of Bodies.' Also, further evidence in favour of the theory of vibration. Mr. Pollock considers the following observations respecting the lightning stroke may tend to remove some of the doubts, which may still be entertained, of the existence of vibration. In estimating the nature of any motion through any medium, the force generating the motion, and that of the resistance of the medium, must be taken into consideration. The lightning stroke being forked proves that the force of the electric fluid, and that of the resistance of the air, are not the same during the transmission of the lightning stroke through air; consequently, its velocity and motion are not continuous and uniform, but by alternate stages of greater and less velocity, and, therefore, by vibration. Thus, the force of the electric fluid is in excess when it overcomes the resistance of the air pursuing its onward course; and the force of the air in excess when the forking or reflection takes place. This phenomenon proving that the electric fluid does not pass through a medium with uniform velocity, shews also that the force of the fluid varies with the quantity; for, if the quantity be small, the forking or branching occurs more fre-

quently, as when the fluid passes between two knobs of two conductors. This is analogous with the progress of light through a medium, and proves that an electric current passes through matter undergoing vibration, having its expanding stage when the force of motion, and its contracting stage when the force of resistance, predominates. A continuous current of the electric fluid is, therefore, a chimera, not existing in nature. In a note, Mr. Pollock says, that, since the foregoing paper was written, he had met with some observations of Mr. Faraday, in Section 897 of his "Researches," most favourable to his view of vibration. The passage quoted states the difficulty, and almost impossibility, to decompose bodies by a current from a single pair of plates, even when so powerful as to heat bars of metal red hot; explained why, and considered the action of the battery as of the nature of antagonist forces—one effecting decomposition, and the other combination, by heating metals and uniting them to oxygen. This view of Mr. Faraday's was considered by Mr. Pollock as almost identical with that by which, in a former paper, he attached a definite meaning to the terms quantity and intensity (*Literary Gazette*, No. 1088). These being the natural result of the vibration of matter.—Read, also, extracts of a letter from Mr. Clibborn, of Dublin, detailing experiments made by him, and offering suggestions well worthy the attention of the Electrical Society, having reference principally to what he calls a clue to a mechanical power in the battery, and to thermo-electric combinations, &c.—Adjourned.

UNITED SERVICE MUSEUM.

MONDAY 21st. The fourth evening meeting, D. Forbes, K.H., Inspector-General of Hospitals, in the chair.—Read by the assistant-director, a letter, announcing that a general meeting of the members of the United Service Museum had been held at the palace, Corfu, on the 3d April, by the direction of His Excellency Sir Howard Douglas, Bart., when a "Local Committee for the Ionian Islands," consisting of a president, Sir G. H. F. Berkeley, an honorary secretary, Captain Best; and seven garrison officers, was formed: also, expressing the desire of the committee to further, with their utmost exertions, the objects of the Institution.—Various presents were exhibited: amongst them a large fragment, brought from the Alhambra, by Captain Napier. The morisco work contained the following inscription, in Arabic character, beautifully executed:—"Wa la Ghaleb ella 'lla," "There is no conqueror but God." The following papers were read:—1st. A second paper on Gothic Architecture, by Commander W. Ramsay, R.N. 2d. On the Carcase-shell, by Captain Norton.—Adjourned.

LITERARY AND LEARNED.

UNIVERSITY INTELLIGENCE.

OXFORD, May 17th.—The following degrees were conferred:—

Masters of Arts.—W. Hussey, Grand Compounder; Rev. J. Scobel, Balliol College; Rev. C. Hodge, St. Edmund Hall; Rev. E. C. Streeten, Queen's College. *Bachelors of Arts*.—W. Taylor, All Souls' College; W. Green, J. C. Harris, J. Topham, Worcester College; A. W. Wallis, G. Weight, Magdalen Hall; J. D. Antley, H. J. Marshall, Pembroke College; W. W. Lovell, Trinity College.

CAMBRIDGE, May 16.—The following degrees were conferred:—

Honorary Master of Arts.—The Hon. H. Lowther, Trinity College. *Masters of Arts*.—A. J. C. Laurie, Trinity College; Rev. R. Yonge, St. John's College; S. F. Gillum, St. Peter's College; T. Wilson, Corpus Christi College. *Bachelor in the Civil Law*.—Rev. W. Wilson, St. Peter's College.

Bachelors of Arts.—C. C. Orme, G. Heathcote, C. De la Pryme, H. J. Bolland, A. Thompson, W. P. Byrne, Trinity College; W. Whitworth, J. M. Lowe, St. John's College; F. Brown, Magdalen College; R. B. Seale, Trinity Hall; E. Walker, King's College; A. Crookenden, W. F. Lanfear, W. Matthews, Queen's College; J. Ellis, Pembroke College; G. Howard, Corpus Christi College; J. Beadmore, Jesus College; J. J. Blandford, W. H. Mountain, Christ's College.

ROYAL SOCIETY.

MR. BAILY in the chair.—Leopold the Second, Grand Duke of Tuscany, was balloted for and elected a fellow. The conclusion of a paper, by Professor Ivory, on 'Astronomical Refractions,' was read. This communication is eminently distinguished by the true spirit of research: the author notices the theory of Mr. Biot, with which he does not agree; he displays great skill in his calculations, but, composed as the paper is of algebraical, barometrical, and other formulae, and frequent reference being made, in illustration, to tables of results, no satisfactory analysis can be presented here.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.

MR. HAMILTON in the chair.—S. Campanari exhibited a very fine Etruscan vase and cover, some mirrors, and an elegant candelabrum, and several sacrificial utensils of bronze, discovered in Vulcia.* A further portion was read of Mr. Stapleton's 'Remarks on the Exchequer Rolls of Normandy.'

LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS
FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

Monday.—Royal Geographical, 9 P.M.; Medical, 8 P.M.
Tuesday.—Institute of Civil Engineers, 8 P.M.
Wednesday.—Society of Arts, 7½ P.M.
Thursday.—Royal Society, 8½ P.M.; Antiquaries, 8 P.M.
Friday.—Royal Institution, 8½ P.M.; Ornithological, 3 P.M.; Botanical, 8 P.M.
Saturday.—Royal Asiatic, 2 P.M.; Electrical, 7 P.M.

FINE ARTS.

EXHIBITION OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY.
[Third Notice.]

16. *A Bivouac of Cupid and his Company*. W. Etty, R.A.—Mr. Etty's smaller works always charm us. We do not remember to have seen a more delightful assemblage of graceful and beautiful forms than in this exquisite composition.

185. *The Principal Characters in "The Merry Wives of Windsor," assembled at the House of Mr. Page; a Scene not in the Play, but supposed to take place in the First Act*. C. R. Leslie, R.A.—Similar, in conception, to a picture exhibited by Mr. Leslie some years ago; but, although it contains some admirable passages, we do not think it quite equal to its predecessor.

49. *Portraits of the Marquess of Stafford and the Lady Evelyn Gower; Dunrobin Castle in the Distance*. E. Landseer, R.A.—An assemblage of fine forms, interesting character, beautiful colour, and, withal, a whimsicality of fancy, that altogether renders this able production very fascinating.

386. *Osteria di Campagna, between Rome and Ancona*. C. W. Cope.—Sometimes classic, sometimes familiar, the paintings of this able artist always claim attention, not more for their skilful execution than for their admirable development of character. The present scene exhibits a great variety of national temperament, in which we are sorry to say the wrangling and disputatious disposition of our own

* These very curious and interesting relics were unaccompanied by any description; but we hope to be enabled to give some further account of them in a future Number.

countrymen, when in foreign lands, is but too painfully prominent, and is rendered still more so by the social bearing of the German students who are carousing in the back-ground.

358. *East View of the City of Namur, with the Great Bridge over the Meuse.* G. Arnald, A.—There is a pictorial as well as a poetical license. Mr. Arnald has here used it with great advantage. The positive colours of the figures in the foreground give great value to the middle and more distant objects.

239. *Nightingale Valley, Clifton.* J. B. Pyne.—With still more of the pictorial license to which we have just alluded. It is, however, a beautiful vision, with some foundation in truth.

242. *A Remembrance.* R. Rothwell.—This, too, is a beautiful vision; and, like Pygmalion's statue, just warming into life. It is a fine preparation.

249. *Doctor Sangrado.* F. P. Stephanoff.—Character without caricature, and humour without grossness, distinguish the works of this artist. He has shewn the practice of the water-drinking doctor under its most whimsical aspect, and with good dramatic effect.

363. *A Camaldolese Monk shewing the Relics in the Sacristy of the Convent, Rome.* W. Simson.—Mr. Simson's talents have been manifested in former exhibitions; but, certainly, never to more advantage than in the present performance. The figures possess little more than devotional feeling; but the style in which they are executed belongs to a very elevated class of art.

404. *Breakfast.* T. Webster.—Though without Mr. Webster's usual fun and frolic, he has, by his treatment of it, imparted to this quiet and domestic scene an interest that may fairly rank it with the works of Teniers or of any other of the Flemish masters. Like those works, its individuality and its truth are its great charms.

270. *The Passions, from Collins's Ode.* G. Patten, A.—Many passages in this production show great talent; yet, as a whole, it may be considered a kind of anomaly. Collins exhibits a succession of the passions, rather than an assemblage of them.

390. *The Mother's Prayer.* A. Johnston.—The costume tells that it is also the widow's prayer. There is great pathos in the subject, and much skill in the performance.

391. *The Balcony.* T. Noble.—On the contrary, exhibits life in its gayest aspect—all light, cheerfulness, and beauty. The assembly of females thus disposed shews like a garland of flowers opposed to a sun-lit sky.

485. *The Lady of Savern and her Page.* H. D.; H.—Similar in effect to the above, but with more gravity of subject. A performance of great merit; which, as an amateur offering, may rank with the best in its class.

[To be continued.]

SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS. [Fourth and concluding notice.]

No. 263. *St. John's, Trinity, and King's Colleges, &c., Cambridge, from the Castle Hill.* F. Mackenzie.—This cluster of seats of learning, with all their interesting associations, is seen rising into view in the purest and fairest style of art, contrasted by a rich and varied foreground, which sets off the silvery tones of spire and pinnacles to the greatest advantage.

No. 205. *Eton.* W. Evans.—Though differing in style of execution from the above, equally connected with early associations. The brief sports connected with the locality are introduced in the happiest way imaginable.

No. 198. *From Tom Cringle's Log.* C. Bentley.—A fearful contrast to the quiet scene of Eton's groves! But, though appalling in its character, it may still have a salutary effect in bringing the mind to bear upon the subject of human atrocity, and, as far as may be, prevent its further progress. As a work of art it is powerfully striking; its particular features will be found in the quotation in the catalogue.

No. 239. *The Brides of Venice.* J. Stephanoff.—Another scene of violence and rapine, fortunately removed from the present times. Yet, however skillfully or adroitly such incidents may be represented, we think an artist should pause to consider how far the representation may be calculated to win a purchaser, as well as to display his powers. The picture is too high for close inspection.

No. 302. *Noon: Boys angling.* D. Cox.—We know not whether Isaac Walton would recommend noon angling; but the quiet and simple scene recommends itself to the eye, by its truth of nature and the agreeable indolence of the pursuit.

No. 36. *Remains of the Nave of Llanthony Abbey, with Cattle.* H. Gastineau.—A tale distinctly narrating the fate of the past. The shadowy remains, like the ghosts of the departed, now look upon scenes very different from those of former times. Cattle are now grazing, and vows of love are whispering where monks and abbots formerly held their revels and exercised their sway.

No. 25. *Gateway Hotel, Routheroulde, Rouen.*—This, too, breathes of the past; and the artist has given an air of romance to the character of his subject by appropriate figures and costume.

No. 132. *The Minstrel.* 272. *The Armourer relating the Story of the Sword.* 356. *Belted Will's Oratory.*—*Naworth Castle.* G. Cattermole.—All highly romantic in subject and character.

No. 221. *Reflection.* No. 228. *A Gipsy Girl.* H. Richter.—Examples of beauty characterised by expressions suitable to each. Here our limits warn us to stop; and we must leave, with regret, the works of Copley Fielding, W. Turner, J. Varley, G. Barret, W. A. Nessfield, F. O. Finch, F. Stone, G. Pyne, &c.; each and all well deserving of notice and high commendation.

THE NEW SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS. [Fourth and concluding notice.]

Our space allows us but a few more remarks on this interesting exhibition; but we leave it with gratifying impressions of its varied features, and of the successful efforts made by the members in the department of art to which they have devoted their talent.

No. 146. *The Indian Mother.* H. Johnston.—The graceful form of the mother, and the secluded spot in which she has nestled with her offspring, as well as the effect of light and colour, are both novel and pleasing.

No. 145. *The Arrest.* W. N. Hardwick.—The subject is one of interest in its present form, or rather size, but quite deserving to appear on a more extended scale.

No. 117. *Interior of a Dutch Skipper's Cabin.* E. Duncan.—Its light and its localities are full of truth. The air of snugness and safety would almost reconcile a timid landsman to a trip on the ocean.

No. 107. *Hastings: Arrival of the Fish Boats.* A. Penley.—We are not aware of seeing the name of this artist before, but we venture to hail his arrival among his compeers for an able scensman. Here is a new word for a new

name. This picture is animated, and, to a certain extent, animating, from the introduction of his foot and horse accompaniments.

No. 71. *Winchester, from St. Giles's Hill.* T. Mairay.—Among this artist's works, none, in extent of prospect, or range of topographical objects, possess greater interest, or exhibit more skillful execution.

No. 105. *At Dunkerque.* G. Sims.—Here, as well as in No. 264, *Richmond: Morning*, and No. 273, *Richmond: Evening*, the artist is quite at home, as well in scenery as in effect. "Yorkshire" here followed the titles of the last two.

No. 259. *Shrimper: Hastings.* No. 268. *Cockle Fishing: Going out.* G. B. Campion.—Charm by their simplicity and truth: while No. 121, *Welsh Peasants going to Market*, by the same able artist, exhibits his powers on a more extended scale.

No. 206. *Augustin's Mission to the Anglo-Saxons, A.D. 592.* W. H. Kenney.—Illustrative of an early part of English history; and in which the artist has disposed his figures and enriched the scene with skill and judgment: amply explaining the character of his subject, from "Sharon Turner's Anglo-Saxons."

The visitors will also find great interest in the works of F. Richard, R. H. Penson, H. P. Riviere, H. Newton, W. Burgess, T. A. Firmingen, B. R. Green, W. Oliver, Fanny Corbux, Miss Laporte, &c. There are *Fruit and Flowers*, by Mrs. Harrison, Mrs. J. Chase, and T. Lindsay; and some admirable Models by E. Corbould, in which No. 285, *Death of William Rufus*, and No. 286, *From the Fairy Queen*, are distinguished by their spirit and picturesque character.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

The Infant Children of the Marquess of Abercorn. Painted by E. Landseer, R.A.; Engraved by S. Cousins, A.R.A. Hodgson and Graves.

WE well remember, that one of the most attractive pictures in the exhibition of the Royal Academy of the year in which it ornamented the walls of the Great Room, was the original of the charming print before us. Under any circumstances, infancy is interesting; but, represented as it here is by Mr. Landseer, it becomes doubly so. The contrast between the "two dogs" is very amusing: the one tranquilly reposing in all the consciousness of irresistible power; the other, under the protection of its young mistress, evidently disposed to be exceedingly impertinent. The name of Cousins renders it unnecessary for us to say, that the plate is an admirable specimen of the most finished style of mezzotinto engraving.

Constantinople and its Environs; with the Seven Churches of Asia Minor.

WE have seen some specimens of the plates which are to illustrate a work under the above title, about to be published in monthly parts by Messrs. Fisher, Son, and Co. They are engraved from drawings made on the spot by Thomas Allom, Esq., and are singularly beautiful. When the first Part makes its appearance, we shall call the attention of our readers more particularly to it.

A Series of Anatomical Sketches and Diagrams; with Descriptions and References. By T. Wormald, and Andrew Melville M'Whinnie. Part I. Highley.

It is stated by Messrs. Wormald and M'Whinnie, that, "during a considerable period they have been engaged in superintending the la-

hours of students in practical anatomy, and finding, by experience, how much their studies were facilitated, and their memories refreshed, by sketches taken from nature, or by diagrams made extemporaneously — observing also with what care they were collected in their notebooks, they (Messrs. W. and M.) imagined that a selection of original sketches and diagrams, furnishing simple and clear views of the intricate parts of the human body, would be acceptable, and serve as an introduction to the more elaborate systems of plates." All we feel entitled to say upon the subject is, that the sketches and diagrams in the present Part appear to be executed with great care, and that we have no doubt they will be very useful to the anatomical student.

Drawing for Young Children. By the Author of "Arithmetic for Young Children." C. Knight.

PUBLISHED under the superintendence of the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge, and exceedingly well calculated to obtain its object — namely, that of preparing children to receive, with ease and advantage, the lessons of a drawing-master. It would be a great improvement if the volume were bound according to the new Indian-rubber process. The various examples might then be placed without any difficulty before the young artist.

Madame Vestris. Drawn by A. E. Chalon, R.A.; Engraved by H. Robinson. McCormick.

A TASTEFUL and excellent resemblance of this fascinating actress; who, by universal acknowledgment, possesses greater personal attractions, and more brilliant and varied talents, than any of her fair contemporaries.

MUSIC.

Mrs. Anderson's Concert.—On Friday, in last week, the annual concert of this much-respected lady and accomplished pianist, was given in the Hanover Square Rooms, and fully and fashionably attended. The musical selection displayed great taste, and the execution was beautiful. Where all was so charming, it is invidious to select any particular performances for praise; but we cannot refrain from noticing, with high approbation, among the vocal efforts, the song, "Thou art Lovelier," by Hawes, and sung by Miss M. B. Hawes, which was justly encored; and "Forse un destin che intendere," from *Parisiina*, by Mrs. Bishop. The instrumental parts were most excellent, especially a *duo brillante*, pianoforte and violin, Mrs. Anderson and Mr. Blagrove; and a quintetto of Beethoven's, piano, Mrs. Anderson; oboe, Barret; clarinet, Willman; bassoon, Baumann; and horn, Puzzi. Our fair pianist, indeed, distinguished herself by her talent and feeling, and was well supported by the musical phalanx around her—Phillips, Ivanhoff, Stretton, Mlle Placidi, and the Queen's private band. The whole gave entire satisfaction.

DRAMA.

Her Majesty's Theatre.—Here we have no novelty to mention, except the performance of *Don Giovanni* for the first time this season on a subscription night, and with an alteration of parts which was no improvement; our favourite Albertazzi being put into *Elvira*, instead of retaining *Zerkina*, which she sung so sweetly last season—too sweetly, in our opinion, to be superseded. Madame Persiani, to whose delightful organ we have done ample justice, assuredly falls short of her predecessor, and is

less at home in this part than any she has as yet attempted. The other parts of the opera are in the old hands, and nothing can be better than the execution.

Covent Garden.—*Woman's Wit; or, Love's Disguises*, the new play by Mr. Sheridan Knowles, was produced on Wednesday; and it is, unquestionably, one of the greatest triumphs of modern dramatic literature. Full of fine poetry, even to bubbling over, brilliant in design and execution, it is perhaps the most masterly even of this great writer's works—a glorious planet, standing out amidst a host of less, though still magnificent, constellations. Surely, such productions as this, in conjunction with those of Bulwer and Talfourd, must again elevate the drama to that lofty station from which it has, of late years, been degraded. Mr. Sheridan Knowles was the first to wield his pen in endeavours to restore the stage to its pristine vigour, and to banish immoralities and follies from those boards on which the works of the immortal Shakspeare had held entire sway. He was followed by a few others, and still continues the labour he commenced with so much honour to himself; and, as the continual dropping of water will wear away a stone, so will these works of genius eventually purify not only the stage but the public taste, which has only been perverted, not destroyed. Our outline of the plot must, of necessity, be very insufficient to give a correct idea of the story, or rather stories, of *Woman's Wit*. The opening scene, which is truly magnificent, introduces us to Lord Athunree, Warde, a profligate libertine, who has long paid attentions to, and has dishonourable designs against, Hero, Miss H. Faucit, the high-souled but capricious niece to Sir William Sutton, Bartley. Hero is attached to, and beloved by, Sir Valentine de Grey, Anderson, who has been rendered jealous by her waltzing with Lord Athunree, and leaves her haughtily. Much hurt at this, she employs her wit, and assumes the dress of a Quakeress. With the assistance of her servant, Clever, Harley, disguised as a Quaker, she succeeds in bringing Sir Valentine to Greenwich; where she lectures him on the vanity of his title and dress, and he falls in love with her as Ruth Mapleson, Clever, or Obadiah, having told him that Ruth is Hero's cousin, and as like her as it is possible to be. This is one part of the love-story; the other is that of Walsingham, Macready, a noble, generous, and high-minded gentleman, and Eustace, Miss Taylor, a melancholy youth. Chance has thrown them together at a fencing-master's, and Walsingham strives to cultivate the friendship of Eustace, on account of the likeness he bears to his lost love, Helen Moubray, to whom he was, and still is, deeply attached; but whom he supposes to have been seduced by the villain Athunree, and therefore endeavours to forget. The friendship of Eustace is at length won, when they meet Lord Athunree, who is denounced by Eustace as a murderer, and called to disprove this assertion in combat. This he willingly does; but determines first to obtain forcible possession of Hero; for which purpose he employs a former agent, Lewson, Diddear. This plot is, however, frustrated, partly through the repentance of Lewson, and partly through Athunree having given Eustace a paper, appointing time and place for their meeting, on which he had previously written some directions concerning the abduction of Hero. Being thus discovered, Athunree is arrested as he is on the point of fighting with Walsingham, who has snatched a sword in order to prevent Eustace from in-

curring any danger. All parties are now taken before Sir William Sutton, and Athunree is proved, by the confession of his accomplice, Lewson, to have plotted against the fair fame of Helen Moubray by means of a letter praying her charity. On her character being thus cleared up, Walsingham is struck dumb, but quickly rendered happy by discovering his long-lost Helen in the person of his friend Eustace. Hero having again donned her own habiliments, gives her hand to Sir Valentine, and a mutual explanation takes place: every one being thus provided for, the curtain falls. We are almost at a loss for words to express our admiration of the acting. Mr. Macready, as Walsingham, was most perfect; some of his speeches were delivered with great force and vigour, others in a soft and tender tone of voice; and there was frequently a sudden change, which was perfectly electrifying. Miss Taylor's Eustace was beyond description beautiful; she never once forgot that she was a lady; and, to judge by the wiping of eyes, her perfect personation of her part was duly appreciated. To Miss Helen Faucit the greatest praise is due; it is impossible to overrate her correct delineation of the part of Hero, which, in unskilled hands, would have been utterly destroyed. Mr. Ward's Lord Athunree was admirably conceived and acted, and he well deserved the applause he gained. Mr. Anderson had a most toilsome and difficult task in Sir Valentine, but he played it exceedingly well, and it will rather add to his already high fame than not. Harley, the volatile and gay, was droll and amusing, and rendered the part of Clever as clever as possible. Half a word of advice to him: as you become more accustomed to the part, do not over-act it. Of the other characters we have but little to say; they were all quite secondary, and all acted in a highly creditable manner. Bartley was bluff and burlesque, as Sir William Sutton; Diddear, solemn, correct, and clever, as Lewson; and Mrs. Serle, quiet and ladylike, as Emily Sutton. Having done our duty to the actors, we return to the author, to whom we beg to offer our most cordial congratulations on the success of *Woman's Wit*, than which nothing could be more justly deserved, nor more gratifying to Mr. Knowles. Some parts of the play are so full of grace, that we cannot refrain from making a few extracts:—

The Waltz.

"Yes; I did dance with her a free
And liberal dance—the dance of contact, else
Forbidden—abandoning to the free hand
The sacred waltz! white face to face, till breath
Doth kiss with breath, and eye embraceth eye.
Your transeid coil relaxing, straight'ning, round
And round in wavy measure, you entwine
Circle with circle, till the swimming brain
And panting heart in swoony lapse give o'er!"

The following is a capital scene in a lively and pleasant vein:—

"Clever. Are you the man they call
Sir Valentine de Grey?
Sir Val. That man am I.
Clever. Then, being he, another man they call
Sir William Sutton, sends me here to pray
Thy company this afternoon, to meet
Some friends who dine with him at Greenwich.
Sir Val. Say,
I cannot come.
Clever. Art thou engaged, friend?
Sir Val. No.
Clever. Then thou speak'st not true. Thou can't come.
Sir Val. Say,
I will not come.
Clever. He bade me say to thee
Thou must come.
Sir Val. Must come.
Clever. Yes; so come along.
For he did charge me bring thee, and I said
I would; and not to bring thee, were to break
My word, and make him angry.
Sir Val. Tell him, then,
I was not in.

Cleaver. I will not tell a lie.
Sir Val. Art thou his servant?
Cleaver. No; but man to one
 That's nice unto him—that is, in the flesh—
 Not in the spirit.
Sir Val. Wherefore?
Cleaver. Know'st thou him,
 And know'st thou not he is a man of sin?
Ruth Mapleson is of the faithful!
Sir Val. Who?
Cleaver. Ruth Mapleson.
Sir Val. I know no niece he hath,
 Save one—fair Mistress Sutton.
Cleaver. Name her not—
 Daughter of darkness.
Sir Val. Liar!
Cleaver. Thou dost lie
 To call me so.
Sir Val. Wretch!
Cleaver. Thou dost lie again.
 I am a godly and a happy man,
 That waits upon Ruth Mapleson; the niece
 Of him they call Sir William Sutton; and
 Cousin to Hero Sutton, whom in naught
 Doth Ruth resemble save her face and form,
 Where she might pass for her, she is so like her.
Sir Val. So like her! said'st thou, like her?
Cleaver. Thou didst hear
 I did: so like her, 'twere a cunning eye
 Could tell the one from the other. That's my hand;
 I take't away, and shew it thee again:
 Is that another hand?
Sir Val. Knave, 'tis the same.
Cleaver. Mischance me not, friend! Knave is not my name,
 But Obadiah. Use me civilly,
 That do instruct thee, who art ignorant.
 Not more in likeness is that hand the same,
 Than Hero Sutton is Ruth Mapleson
 In feature, figure, face, complexion, all
 That makes the outward woman—but within,
 Winter and summer are not less akin!
Sir Val. How, knave?
Cleaver. I told thee not to call me 'knave';
 My name is Obadiah.
Sir Val. Obadiah!
 I'll call thee, then. How are these cousins as
 Unlike as winter is to summer?
Cleaver. Thus.—Is winter barren? so is the maiden Hero;
 it is made up of fogs and rain! so is the maiden Hero
 of vapours and the spleen; hath it much cloud, and little
 sun! so hath the maiden Hero great discontent, small
 content; hath it long night, and brief day? so hath the
 maiden Hero lasting displeasure, short favour; is there
 any depending upon it? no more is there upon the maiden
 Hero; do you wish it heartily away? so would you be
 rid of the maiden Hero.
Sir Val. I fear thou art a slanderer.
Cleaver. I see
 Thou lack'st manners, which is grievous, friend,
 In one of thy degree. Thou callest names
 As scavengers that quarrel in the streets
 Most unbecomingly!
Sir Val. Well, well proceed.
 What of her cousin?
Cleaver. Tho' a godly man,
 Yet am I flesh and blood, and thou dost vex
 My spirit, friend, by so misusing me.
 I tell thee once again, my name is not
 Liar, nor knave, nor slanderer, nor ought
 But Obadiah.
Sir Val. Well—enough of that;
 Her cousin? Come! Her cousin?
Cleaver. Tho' I am
 A man of peace, I am a valiant man.
 I combat not, but yet the elements
 Of war are given me, friend! I am full of them,
 Save what is in me of the godly thing
 That mortifies the flesh, and keeps them in
 Subjection! Yea, I am a warlike man!
Sir Val. Verily, a very warlike man!
Sir Val. I fear thy pardon.
Cleaver. I do grant it thee:
 Thou dost a proper thing; and now shalt hear,
 Wherein the maiden Ruth, who, outwardly,
 Is to the maiden Hero what that maiden
 Is to herself, is inwardly, reverse
 As summer is to winter.
Sir Val. Prithce on!
Cleaver. Is summer fertile? is summer clear? hath it
 little cloud, much sun, long day, and short night—and
 that more like day, than light? is summer constant, and
 do you wish it never away? so is the maiden Ruth
 bounteous: is the maiden Ruth cheerful? so hath she
 twenty smiles for one frown; lasting favour, brief dis-
 pleasure, which you would almost take to be a favour; so
 is she little liable to change; so would you wish to have
 her ever with you!
Sir Val. Where dwells this cousin?
Cleaver. In Greenwich, friend, whither thou goest; not
 in the same house with 'him that sends for thee—for light
 dwelleth not with darkness—but in another habitation,
 where her books, and her flowers, and her own sweet
 thoughts, which are fairer and wiser than either, are her
 only companions.
Sir Val. I'll go with thee to Greenwich. Lead on!
Cleaver. Hold, friend—You must do all things soberly."

Again we quote a shorter passage in a different style. *Walsingham, describing Helen*

Mowbray's guilt to Eustace, tells him he saw her leave a house of ill-fame:—

Eus. Did she shun thee?
Wal. No!
Eus. That was a proof of innocence.
Wal. Of guilt!
 Rank! rank!—a sudden and entire infection,
 A touch and rottenness! as from the bite
 Of a serpent, in an instant ruddy life
 To black corruption grows! Why should she shun me?
 She had her tale at hand! 'Twas but to make
 Her paramour her friend; their assignation,
 A freak of chance; her reconciliation to
 A man she loath'd before, a debt; and for
 That debt assign a cause equivalent;—
 All which she did in a breath! 'Twas clear, sir; clear!
 The truth spoke for itself! Fact born of fact—
 Naught out of place or disproportionate!
 As obviously that follow'd this; this that;
 As this doth chime with this, and that with that!
 A thing one must believe! From end to end,
 A lie, sir!—He had sav'd her from a villain!
 The villain! When appeal'd to, he did damn her!
 'He fain would bear her out! His life was hers!—
 His fortune—but upon a point of honour—
 In question with a man of honour—not
 That he denied her fair avowments tho'—
 He pray'd she would excuse him!
Eus. You believed him!
 Him you believ'd, that ne'er was true before!
 Her disbelief'd was ne'er before but true."

This is exquisite, and drew down bursts of applause. Another gem was beautifully spoken by Miss Faucit.

"What mean you? Do you take me for
 A season friend, no stancher than the bird
 The sun doth tell him time to come and go,
 And 'twixt us what 'tis summer?—Oh, you wrong me!
 What!—I to love, as doth that summer bird
 The land he makes his gay sojourning in,
 My friend, because 'tis leaf and blossom time!
 Indeed you wrong me!—Knew I at this moment
 A cheek I lov'd, was beggar'd of its smiles—
 Not one left to it—I swear to thee the next—
 If back'd my power my will—before the next,
 My own should be its neighbour. Oh! how much
 You wrong me!"

Our last extract is, in our opinion, the most perfect part of the play. *Walsingham* and *Eustace* (*Helen*) are at the place of meeting, previous to the arrival of *Lord Athurree*.

"*Helen*. Shake hands! We'll say good bye before they come,
 Lest there arrive occasion, and no time!
 Good bye! Oh, happy women, that are friends!
 They may smile, but none cannot do so.
Walsingham. Yes!
 When they are brothers.
Helen. Feel'st thou as my brother?
 I feel as I were thine.
Wals. My boy! my boy!
 Heaven! but thou fain'st!
Helen. No! Are they coming? Heaven
 Reward thee for thy precious love of me!
 They are at hand. Good bye!
Wals. Shew me thy sword!
 'Tis somewhat longer, I believe, than mine;
 And I would try the depth of yonder stream,
 In case we need to wade it.
 [Goes out, and returns without the sword.]

It has slipped,
 And gone down to the bottom! Boy, your quarrel's
 mine:
 To humour thee, did I consent to play
 The second to thee. Stand aside, with broad
 And lusty breast and stowey arm, and see
 Thy stripling form the deadly point oppose
 In the athletic villain's practised hand,
 Instead of grasping thee with loving force,
 Like to a dotting old man's boyson,
 Or elder brother his dear younger one,
 Taking thy place, and swinging thee away!
 No, boy! Before thy young veins part a drop
 Of their life's streams, my channel shall run dry!
Helen. Is this fair, Walsingham?
Wals. Yet, hear me on!
 I find I could not live without thee; so,
 Guarding thy life, I but protect my own.
 That's fair, that's rational, that's sound in nature!
 Want'st further reason? I will give it thee—
 Thou art like her!
Helen. Whom?
Wals. Boy, hast thou read my soul?
 Have I turn'd o'er its every page to thee—
 Love, hate, hope, doubt, possession, loss, bliss, pain,
 Contentment, and despair; and, in each one
 Shewn thee one all-pervading cause enwrit,
 For nothing? Whom could I compare thee to?
 But her, the heroine of my sad story?
 Whom much thou dost resemble! Hast thou never
 Remark'd me gazing in abstraction on thee,
 As though, upon perusal of thy face,
 While seem'd mine eye intent, my soul did pore
 Upon some other thing? I have done it oft;

Will do it once again! Your eyes are hers
 In form and hue, but sunk; a darkness too,
 Not heavy, yet enough to make a cloud.
 Sits, not disparagingly though, 'neath thine;
 Hers were two starry brilliants, set in pearl!
 The outline of the nose is quite the same,
 But that of thine is sharper; 'tis thy sex.
 The mouth is very like—oh, very like!
 But there's a touch—a somewhat deep one, too—
 Of pensiveness. The cast of hers was sweetness,
 Enlarking full content. The cheek is not
 At all alike;—'tis high, and black below,
 And sallow—not a dimple in't—all contrast
 To the rich flower'd and velvet lawn of hers.
 But though thou art not she entire, thou art
 Enough of her, to make me love thee, boy!
 With such a brother-love, as brother never,
 I dare be bound, for brother felt before!
 I spoke not of thy hair; it is a wood
 Run wild, compared to hers, and thrice as deep
 'Tis the shade. Yet, you are very like her! quite
 Enough to make me pour my heart's blood out,
 As water, for thy sake! They are at hand!
Helen. Then let me be at least thy sword-bearer;
 And when thou need'st the steel, I'll keep the sheath,
 Which in thy motions would embarrass thee."

We have already far exceeded our limits, and must conclude; which we do by recommending all to go and see this masterpiece. To those who cannot go and see it, we can only say, buy, and read the play.

Haymarket.—Power returned here on Monday, and has appeared nightly in some of his best characters; among which we cannot reckon one, in the *Irish Barrister*, a novelty produced on the occasion.

Olympic.—*Patter versus Clatter*, produced on Monday, is a very amusing and laughable burletta; being only a vehicle for displaying more of Mr. Charles Mathews's versatility, it does not require a very lengthy notice: it is sufficient for us to say, that it was completely successful. The *Drama's Levee* has improved, and is improving.

SKETCHES.

LITERARY CURIOSITY.

AMONG the extraordinary vicissitudes of the world, and in the world of literature, we have not often met with any thing more remarkable than the appearance of a *Newspaper*, at *Carthage*, the "GIORNALE DI TUNIS E CARTAGINE!"

No. 1, 21 Marzo, 1838, has reached this country, and we shall next week give a résumé of its contents: in the meantime we may state that it is written in choice Italian, and contains interesting accounts of the prosecution of discoveries at *Carthage*.

A *Carthage Newspaper* (thanks to Mr. Hudson Gurney for the sight of it) threw us into a curious reflective mood, and we pondered on the strange changes and vicissitudes which have occurred since the last Punic war, to make it possible that such a publication could be. We thought of Spain, Sicily, and Sardinia, once conquered and tributary; of Canne and Zama; of the victorious and ruthless Romans; of Hamilcar and Regulus; of Hannibal and Scipio, and a thousand wondrous things related of their fates and fortunes—what they were, what had happened to them, where or what they are now! And a deep sleep fell upon us.

As we slumbered the god *Somnus* appeared to us, and from his darkly curtained cave sent his son and minister, *Morpheus*, in the disguise of an Animal Magnetiser, who immediately began to finger and poke our epigastrium in a singularly disagreeable manner. With our eyes still closely sealed we soon discovered, however, that he had laid an ancient *Carthage Chronicle* on the part of our body assaulted, and put us *en rapport* with the *Ulster Herald*, Sir William Betham, the best translator living of the elder Phœnician, Etrurian, and Celtic tongues. Through the magic powers of his electrico-mag-

netico-artico we immediately began to read the paper, without understanding a word of it, but, as we were assured by Sir William, with perfect accuracy, proper emphasis, and sound discretion; inasmuch so, that the worthy Ulster rendered it into English off-hand, to the astonishment of a surrounding flock of geese, said to be lineally descended from those who saved the Capitol. Be this as it may, we venture to copy a few of the paragraphs, as they were taken down by a short-hand writer hired for the occasion, and who informed us that they were really and literally published at Carthage more than two thousand years ago.

"FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.—Despatches have, we learn, been received by government from Field-marshal Hannibal, dated Capua. The army is in the finest possible order and condition, and the soldiers, after the fatigues of the campaign, enjoying the relaxation so necessary to fit them for the renewal of hostilities, when the season opens. Capua is described as a very pleasant city, and the inhabitants seem never to be weary of administering to the comforts and happiness of our gallant countrymen. The best understanding prevails."

"We lament to state, that a telegraphic despatch from Metaurus, interrupted by a thick fog over the Pillars of Hercules, indicates the defeat of the force under Lieutenant-general Asdrubal, by Generals Lucius Salinator and Claudius Nero. As the announcement could not be completed, owing to the condition of the atmosphere, it may be allowed us to express our hope and belief, that it could only be a partial reverse; and, no doubt, the scales were speedily turned by the skill of our commander, and the discipline and bravery of his troops. It is, indeed, quite impossible, from the position of the armies, that any thing like a total discomfiture could have taken place; for, even if the left wing had been turned, the ground of the centre and right was so impregnable, that the slightest movement upon their strength, as a pivot, would have assured the safety of the whole. Besides, the Hamilcar regiment of guards was in the field; and, when were they defeated by the dastard Romans?"

(From our own Correspondent.)

"Capua, *Die Mercurii*.—We are living so gay a life here, that, but for one melancholy event, I should tell you that all was *couleur de rose*. The ladies of Capua are the most lovely and obliging creatures in the world; and, indeed, all through Campania is an earthly paradise. The cookery is exquisite; the beccoficos marvellously delicate; and the wines and liqueurs superlative. The field-marshal had the dead body of L. Emilius sought out from among the slain, and gave it a sumptuous funeral; which noble act will be received by the enemy as an *amende* for the rather severe treatment of his excellency, Mr. Regulus, whose mutilation and barrel-punishment in the last war were hardly quitted by the cruelties exercised by the widow Regulus on the Carthaginian prisoners at Rome; and, therefore, remained a rather sore subject with the Romans ever since.

"But I have now to inform you of the sad incident which has excited so much commiseration in our quarters. The other night, after a charming concert and ball, in which the fair Capuans were more sweet and gracious than ever, the field-marshal retired to his tent, and was writing a despatch for Colonel Mago to be sent to Carthage, with some bushels of Roman knights' gold rings, taken from the slaughtered foe after the battle; when, suddenly, a round substance was rolled to his feet.

On examining it, what was our sorrow and consternation to discover that it was the head of his brother, Asdrubal, whom he expected with reinforcements from Iberia. The field-marshal himself was most deeply affected, and exclaimed, 'In losing Asdrubal, I lose all my happiness, and Carthage all her hopes.'

"It is expected that he will immediately march on Rome to avenge this cruel insult. General Fabius is still procrastinating, and little opposition is to be feared from that slow tortoise; and as for Brigadier-general Marcellus, we are strong enough to drive him from post to pillar. Depend upon it, that I shall very soon send you a sackful of plunder from the great sack of Rome."

The ladies of the High Street and Boulevards are quite impatient for the arrival of the Roman knights' rings from Canne. The heroism and gallantry of Field-marshal Hannibal is the theme of every party; and a statue of him, by subscription, is generally talked of. A private letter says it is strongly suspected that the auxiliary Gauls secreted nearly a bushel.

This morning, six squadrons of the Adrumetum City Light Horse marched in to do duty here. They are quartered in the Lower Barracks. The Leptis Volunteers are also on duty.

It is reported that a turn-out of the trades-union at Utica took place on the eighth day of the moon, but, by the timely interference of the magistrates, the mob dispersed without the reading of the riot-act, or calling in the aid of the military.

The last letters from Hippo state that the recruiting for the army of Italy goes on in the most spirited manner.

Notwithstanding the generally favourable state of our affairs, at home and abroad, the vile, factious, and anti-government journals pretend that the whole coast is alarmed by rumours of an invasion by General Scipio. We can assure our readers that there is no truth in these vague and mischievous inventions. The Syrtis is in as much danger as the sea-board is from Scipio, or any Romans. We have many letters from the best-informed Periokoi, which assure us that the whole Periokis is in the most prosperous and secure contentment.

We are glad to find that the price of vinegar has fallen a penny a-pint. It has not been so cheap since the melting of the Alps; and, unless large quantities are wanted for the Apennines, there is no likelihood of an increase of price.

The sufferers from the late fire at the corner of Ennea and Troy Streets have opened shops in the Magna Græcia Bazaar, till their premises are repaired.

To-morrow, prayers are appointed to be offered up to the Gods, for the further success of the field-marshal commanding in Italy; and five human victims are ordered to be sacrificed in Dido Square. The great bell of the Great Temple will ring a *delemda*, and afterwards a treble bob-major on the occasion.

The felon Hanno, found guilty at the last assizes of the crime of taming a lion, was yesterday conveyed to the hulks, in pursuance of his sentence. The Suffetes rejected his appeal. The lion has been sent to the Zoological Gardens.

At this moment, something like the roar of a lion was replied to by a sonorous snore from our expanding nostrils, and widely stretched mouth; Sir William Betham melted into thin air; the *Carthage Chronicle* took into itself wings, and abandoned our abdomen; Morpheus had fallen asleep, and neglected to keep up the magnetic current; we began to see with our eyes instead of our stomach, to hear with our ears instead of our elbows, to be ourselves instead of somebody else—and, lo! all was an idle and foolish dream.

Another Wonder.—A Persian newspaper is also published at Isphahan; among the contents of which are accounts of the ascent of English balloons, with observations on aerostation! and an announcement of an Italian doctor, that he practises lithotripsy, and cures diseases of the eyes!!

VARIETIES.

President of the Royal Society's Soirées.—

The last of the *soirées* for the season given by H. R. H. the Duke of Sussex, at Kensington Palace, took place on Saturday, and was very numerous and brilliantly attended by men of high rank and celebrity. The Duke of Rutland, Lord de Grey, Lord Munster, Lord Lyndhurst; Sir J. Herschel, Faraday, Buck-

land, Peacock, Murchison, Babbage, Wheatstone; Shee, Wilkie, Phillips; Sir A. Johnston, Davies Gilbert, D'Israeli, sen.; several ambassadors and strangers of note; and, in short, distinguished persons of every class filled the suite of rooms from nine till midnight. Many curious inventions and productions were displayed on the tables; and, on bidding good-night to their royal entertainer, every one felt how much the intellectual and scientific pursuits of the age were indebted to him for these social and gratifying reunions.

The *Literary Fund* meeting of to-day promises to be both numerous and interesting, under the presidency of the Marquess of Lansdowne. The attendance of many eminent literary characters, of foreign ambassadors, of celebrated travellers, and indeed a full muster of the friends of literature, has been announced to the secretary.

Pictures.—Among the present sights of London, we have to point the attention of our readers to a fine collection of ancient pictures made in Italy by Mr. Sandford, and now exhibited by Mr. Yates at his new rooms in Regent Street. There are some splendid productions by Italian masters in this gallery. Some by Bacchiocci, the best we ever saw from his hand. Striking portraits by Salvator Rosa, and specimens, indeed, of a high order of merit not only by artists of the highest name and fame, but others of great merit and beauty by painters less known to the British public. Altogether, it is a collection which no lover of art should lose the opportunity of inspecting.

Thames Anchovies.—Mr. Yarell has exhibited to the members of the Zoological Society an anchovy, caught among the white bait. He stated that there were plenty of fine, though small, herrings in Dagenham Reach.

T. A. Knight, Esq.—This gentleman, so distinguished as a botanist, and one of the founders of the Horticultural Society, died last week at the house of one of his daughters, Mrs. Walpole, at the age of eighty.

LITERARY NOVELTIES.

In the Press.

A work of great interest connected with the late expedition to the Euphrates is announced under the title of *Researches in Assyria, Chaldaea, and Babylonia*, with Illustrations by W. Ainsworth, F.G.S. &c. &c. Geologist to the Expedition. It is under the sanction of the President of the Board of Control, Mr. Rose, and announced by Windsor Castle and its Environs, richly embellished with Engravings on Steel.—Colonel Mitchell (author of "The Life of Wallenstein") announces a *Life of Napoleon*.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Debrett's Complete Peerage, Edited by W. Courthorpe, Esq. T. A New Edition, with the Arms incorporated with the text, post 8vo. 11. 8s.—The Theory and Practice of Musical Composition, by G. F. Graham, Esq. from the "Encyclopædia Britannica," 4to. 9s.—Introduction to the Natural History of Fishes, by J. Wilson, from the "Encyclopædia Britannica," 4to. 5s.—Thoughts on the Union to Christ, by Sotheby, sixth edition, 12mo. 3s. 6d.—The Physiognomy of Mental Disease, by A. Morrison, M.D. No. 1. Mania, 8vo. 3s. 6d.—The Question of Popular Education, by J. Glassford, Esq. 12mo. 1s. 6d.—Dr. F. Goodwin's Patience and its Perfect Work, by Dr. B. Hawker, 18mo. 2s.—Sermons, by Henry Melville, B.D. Vol. II. 8vo. 10s. 6d.—Tide Act and Amendment Act, by G. H. Whalley, Esq. fcap. 10s.—Memoir of Mrs. H. More, by T. Taylor, 12mo. 6s. cloth.—Pictorial New Testament, royal 8vo. 14s.—History of Rome, by T. Arnold, D.D. Vol. I. 8vo. 10s.—The Invalid's Book, by the Editor of the "Parling Gift," royal 18mo. 3s. 6d.—Rev. W. Shepherd's Family and Parochial Sermons, 8vo. 10s. 6d.—Jacob's Broomgrove Greek Grammar, 12mo. 6s.—Guide to Henley-on-Thames, 18mo. 2s. 6d.—Recollections of the Eventful Life of a Soldier, by Sergeant Donaldson, fcap. 6s.—Rev. C. J. Paterson's Memoirs, edited by Rev. C. T. Hoare, 12mo. 6s.—Brief Record of Meditative Hours, by a Young Disciple, 12mo. 3s. 6d.—Bory d'Ore, 3 vols. fcap. new edition, 18s.—De Lolme on the Constitution, by T. G. Western, 8vo. 11. 5s.—Cowie's Job-Master Printer's Price-Book, fcap. 1s.—Parlour Magic, royal 18mo. cloth, 5s.—Jesse's Gleamings in Natural History, new edition, 2 vols. fcap. 12s.—Fowell's Latin Grammar, fcap. 3s. 6d.—Magazine of Domestic Economy, Vol. III. 8vo. 6s. 6d.—The Gospel History, in a Series of

Lessons, by R. P. Mimpres, 12mo. 3s.—Memoir of Rev. W. Stedman, D.D., by his Son, 12mo. 8s.

METEOROLOGICAL JOURNAL, 1838.

May.	Thermometer.	Barometer.
Thursday... 10	From 32 to 56	30.21 to 30.28
Friday... 11	... 22 ... 58	30.31 ... 30.21
Saturday... 12	... 10.5 ... 63	30.10 ... 29.96
Sunday... 13	... 37 ... 59	29.69 ... 29.63
Monday... 14	... 30 ... 51	29.63 ... 29.64
Tuesday... 15	... 23 ... 56	29.64 ... 29.68
Wednesday... 16	... 21 ... 57	29.75 ... 29.76

Winds, N.W. and N.E.

Generally clear, except the 13th and 14th, when rain fell.

The extraordinary severity of the frost on several of the mornings during the past week, has it is to be feared, entirely destroyed the bud and fruit of the more tender trees; the extent of the injury cannot immediately be ascertained.

Rain fallen .05 of an inch.

May.	Thermometer.	Barometer.
Thursday... 17	From 24 to 60	29.76 to 29.79
Friday... 18	... 26 ... 57	29.79 ... 29.83
Saturday... 19	... 38 ... 58	29.88 ... 29.77
Sunday... 20	... 46 ... 63	29.61 ... 29.52
Monday... 21	... 47 ... 63	29.52 ... 29.58
Tuesday... 22	... 46 ... 56	29.52 ... 29.62
Wednesday... 23	... 41 ... 58	29.69 ... 29.77

Winds, S.E. and S.W.

Except the 17th and 18th, generally cloudy, with frequent rain.

Rain fallen, .0875 of an inch.

Edmonton. CHARLES HENRY ADAMS.
Latitude 51° 37' 32" N.
Longitude 0 3 51 W. of Greenwich.

Extracts from a Meteorological Register kept at High Wycombe, Bucks, by a Member of the Meteorological Society. April 1838.

Thermometer—Highest.....	63.00	the 11th.
Lowest.....	19.50	1st.
Mean.....	40.59791	
Barometer—Highest.....	29.96	13th.
Lowest.....	28.91	8th.
Mean.....	29.51166	

Number of days of rain, and snow, 14.

Quantity of rain and melted snow in inches and decimals, 0.59375.

Winds.—1 North-East—1 East—1 South-East—0 South—6 South-West—9 West—6 North-West—6 North.

General Observations.—Seven years have elapsed since the maximum of the barometer has been so low in April, not rising to 30.00, and the mean was lower than last year in the same month; yet the quantity of rain and melted snow, of which last the quantity was very small, was less, with one exception, than in any corresponding month in the last fourteen years. The mean temperature, although above that in last year, was lower than any one in April, during the period before-mentioned, and the minimum was the lowest of any in that time. Snow fell on five different days, but, only once covered the ground, and then only to the depth of six-tenths of an inch, but then soon melted away. In the middle of the month much equally weather was experienced, the wind blowing chiefly from the westward, and north-westward.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

In our notice of Messrs. Finden's truly admirable and national (if ever there were a national) work of art, "The Royal Gallery of British Art," in our last, we mistakenly spoke of it as a publication of Mr. Moon; but we ought to be understood as meaning simply that he is its publisher, for the entire risk and cost of this great undertaking, together with its original conception, are to the honour of the artists,—the Messrs. W. and E. Finden.

Our Gazette is rather put out of proportion to-day by the influx of interesting matter from various scientific Societies as well as foreign accounts.

ERRATUM.—The critique on the Ancient Concerts, in our last, requires much correction, and we can best give it in the form of the remarks made on the spot, from the misconstruction of some passages in whose preceding letter the errors occurred.—"As to the blunders in the notice of the Ancient Concert, Miss Shirreff was not engaged at the Ancient Concert either on the night the Queen was there, or on any other night that I ever heard of. It was Grisi herself who sang 'Il mio ben'; and who, I intended to have remarked, acquitted herself so well in that song, as to make amends for her indifferent performance of 'Let the bright Seraphim.' The English words to Pergolesi's song (which I remarked go better to the music than the original Latin ones), commence 'Oh! Lord have mercy upon me,' and not 'O Lord deliver me,' as erroneously printed in the article of last Saturday. The song is so well known, that every musical person must think the writer of the article utterly uninformed on such matters. But the best joke of all, is ascribing the performance of 'Gratias Agimus,' to Lablache! A bravura for a high treble sung by a bass singer with such a ponderous voice! What a ludicrous idea! It would be like an elephant attempting to imitate the freaks of a kitten. 'Non piu andrai' was the name of the song sung by Lablache; and it was Mrs. Bishop who sang 'Gratias Agimus,' as you will find on referring to the scrawl, if you have not destroyed it. I think it will be for the credit of the Literary Gazette to have these mistakes corrected."

ADVERTISEMENTS,

Connected with Literature and the Arts.

THE THIRTY-FOURTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION of the SOCIETY of PAINTERS in WATER COLOURS, at their Gallery, Pall Mall East, is now open.

Open each day, from Nine till Dusk.

Admission, 1s.—Catalogue, 6d.

R. HILLS, Secretary.

SOCIETY OF BRITISH ARTISTS.

The Exhibition of the Society of British Artists, Suffolk Street, Pall Mall East, is now open, from Nine in the Morning till Dusk.

Admission, 1s.

H. E. DAWE, Secretary.

MESSRS. YATES and SON have the honour to inform the Nobility and Gentry, they have on View at the Picture Gallery, 80 Regent Street, an extensive and rare Collection of Italian Pictures lately consigned to them from Florence; amongst which are, some splendid Pictures by Correggio, Raphael, A. del Sarto, Fra Bartolomeo, and two magnificent Pictures by that scarce Master, Francesco Ubertino. Also, the bust of Lorenzo il Magnifico, by Michael Angelo.

This Exhibition will be found one of the most interesting since the celebrated Orleans Sale.

Admission 1s.—Open from Ten till Six o'clock.

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Works of Art will be received from the 28th July to the 11th August, inclusive.

Printed copies of the regulations and any other information, may be had on application to the Secretaries.

T. M. GREENHOW, } Secretaries.
J. LOCKYER HANLEY, }

Society's Rooms, Grey Street,
Newcastle-upon-Tyne,
17th May, 1838.

RYALL'S PORTRAITS OF EMINENT

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The Eighth Part of the above Work will be published on the First of July, and will contain the Portraits of His Grace the Duke of Northumberland, The Right Honourable the Earl Howe, and The Right Honourable the Lord Wallace.

Each Portrait will be accompanied by a Memoir of the most important Events in the Political Careers of these Distinguished Conservatives.

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